METRO / A17

Son-in-law of lawmaker tests positive for gunpowder burns, bolstering suicide angle

BUSINESS / B1

Gov't line agencies to raise charges soon

LIFESTYLE / C1

Strategies to help you maintain your weight

SPORTS / A23

Federer relishes Nadal challenge, ties Borg's Wimbledon mark

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Tuesday, July 10, 2007 ★★ 6 sections / Vol. 22 / No. 212 P18 website: www.inquirer.net

Public consultation but without the public

By Ma. Cecilia Rodriguez
Inquirer Mindanao

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—What was billed as the first of a series of public consultations on the implementation of the antiterror law kicked off here yesterday—

PUBLIC/ A6

Pressure rises on Bush to begin Iraq pullback

WASHINGTON—US PRESIDENT GEORGE W. Bush on Monday faced a fresh attack from congressional Democrats over his Iraq policy as a newspaper report revealed he was under stronger pressure to announce the gradual pullout of American troops from the Middle East country sooner rather than later.

The New York Times reported that senior

PRESSURE/ A8

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo: No need for implementing rules and regulations. LYN RILLON

ANTITERROR ACT

GMA says no stopping law as bishops call for review

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

THERE'S NO STOPPING THE IMPLEmentation of the Human Security Act of 2007 despite an appeal from the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines for the government to review it first.

President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday said the HSA, or Republic Act No. 9372, "An Act to Secure the State and Protect our People from Terrorism," would take effect as scheduled on Sunday even without its implementing rules and regulations.

Activists fear the new law could be abused because it broadly defines terrorism as the act of "sowing and creating a condition of widespread and extraordinary fear and panic among the populace."

GMA SAYS/ A6

ARCHBISHOP Angel Lagdameo, CBCP president (center), with Bishop Deogracias Iniguez (left) and Archbishop Antonio Ledesma (right). AFP

First 13 party-list winners proclaimed

By Nikko Dizon and Jocelyn R. Uy

THE COMMISSION ON ELECtions yesterday proclaimed the first 13 winners in the party-list elections held on May 14, allowing at least their first nominees to finally sit in the 14th Congress.

In a six-page resolution, the Comelec, sitting as the National Board of Canvassers, proclaimed Buhay with 1,163,218 votes; Bayan Muna, 927,730; Cibac, 760,260; Gabriela, 610,451; Apec, 538,971; A Teacher, 476,036; Akbayan, 470,872; Alagad, 423,076; Butil, 405,052; Coop-Natco, 390,029; Anakpawis, 376,036; Alliance of Rural Concerns, 338,194, and Abono, 337,046.

This is "without prejudice to the proclamation of the other party-lists which will get 2 percent of the total number of party-list votes," it said.

The resolution, read before the national canvassing began at around 4 p.m., caught everyone at the Comelec session hall in Intramuros, Manila, by surprise. Even Bayan Muna's third nominee and legal counsel, Neri Colmenares, had to ask the NBC if this was indeed the official proclamation of the party-list groups.

"We were not even invited or

FIRST/ A15

6 AFP agents linked to Jonas abduction

LIFE AND DEATH
Malabon Zoo owner Manny Tangco (left) cavorts with Pacquiao, an orangutan, as they harvest "patola" (sponge gourd) at the zoo on Monday. At right, DENR employees in Davao City prepare to put sulfur-crested cockatoos to sleep for fear they may be contaminated with the bird flu virus. The cockatoos were part of a shipment of exotic birds and animals from Indonesia seized by government agents in a raid in Davao City. JOAN BONDOC/BING GONZALES

Colonel, 5 others face NBI inquiry

By Leila B. Salaverria

TEN WEEKS AFTER ACtivist Jonas Burgos mysteriously disappeared, the search for his abductors has led the country's top civilian investigating body to the military's doorstep.

Acting on tips provided by an informant, a Department of Justice prosecutor yesterday directed the National Bureau of Investigation to question six members of the military—including a woman—and verify leads about their alleged involvement in the abduction of the son of the late press freedom advocate Jose (Joe) Burgos Jr.

Of the six, three were purportedly assigned to the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, while the rest belonged to the Army—the 56th Infantry Battalion based in Bulacan and the Escort and Security Battalion.

Senior State Prosecutor Em-

6 AFP AGENTS/ A4

Victim cops tell NBI their boss recruited them in scam

By Tina G. Santos

AT LEAST 11 PEOPLE, INCLUDING policemen, went to the National Bureau of Investigation yesterday, claiming they all fell victim to the "Francswiss" investment scheme, one of the pyramiding scams proliferating on the Internet.

Ruel Lasala, chief of the NBI National Capital Region, said the complainants were reluctant to lodge a complaint against the incorporators and officials of Francswiss for fear that they too would become suspects.

"There were several others who were calling us up, saying they feared that they too would be arrested. Because even if they were victimized, they too recruited other people to join the pyramiding scheme," Lasala said.

The policemen, reportedly members of the Manila Police District, refused to be identified because they were recruited by their superior.

"They don't know now what to do because it was their boss who enticed them to join," Lasala said.

Another complainant, a female employee, claimed that about 20 of them in her company also fell victim to the scam.

She said she was able to recover the first P47,500 she invested.

"It was good at first. I was really earning money. But then I

VICTIM/ A6

Activism, media serve ex-Polish president well

By Ma. Ceres P. Doyo

LIKE HIS FELLOW POLE, POPE John Paul II, former Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski could also say that his experiences as a student activist and in the media have served him in good stead, especially in the task of political leadership.

Later, as a leader, he would learn that "historical changes could be achieved not through confrontation but through dialogue."

The two-term Polish president (1995-2005) stressed these points in last Tuesday's 2nd Ateneo MVP (Manuel V. Pangilinan) Leadership Forum where he was the keynote speaker.

Kwasniewski succeeded Lech Walesa, the charismatic labor leader who led Solidarnosc (the Solidarity movement) against the communist

ACTIVISM/ A15

Fil-Am sailors help rebuild Bicol

By Tarra Quismundo

LEGAZPI CITY—MANY OF THEM HAVE been away from the Philippines for years and most had never seen the majestic Mayon Volcano. Now, on a trip to the homeland to extend a helping hand to their countrymen in dire need, they can glimpse the volcano whenever they want.

The Filipino-Americans serving on the US Navy aircraft carrier, USS Peleliu, are part of a humanitarian mission called Pacific Partnership.

The four-month mission is being carried out by some 1,000 American sailors aboard the Peleliu, which is currently anchored in the Philippine Sea off Albay.

About 100 of the ship's crew are of Filipino descent and doing medical, technical and clerical jobs for the mission.

"You know, it's good to see that we're helping our countrymen, especially those who are really in need, especially in this place that was really devastated. It's good that we're here," said Lt. Francis Santos, a stock control officer now on his 18th year with the US Navy.

Now based in San Diego, California, the 40-year-old Santos last came home two years ago, one of his occasional trips back to the Philippines since joining the US Navy in 1989.

His current mission brought him for the first time to Bicol, devastated last year by Supertyphoons Milenyo and Reming.

Chief Petty Officer Alejandro Bernardino, 39, told the INQUIRER that he loved visiting the villages of Albay because they reminded him of his childhood in Malolos, Bulacan.

FIL-AM/ A15

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

TUESDAY, JULY 10, 2007

EZ2 FOUR DIGIT

8 10 | 8 7 7 8

Mid-Day SUERTRES Evening

2 5 9 | 8 5 3

(All in exact order)

MEGALOTTO 6/45

3 18 20 27 33 37

P45,672,733.80

Second FrontPage

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph Website: www.inquirer.net/nation

Text us your feedback: inquirer news name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Luzon and Western Visayas will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will have partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms.

Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Cloudy with Rains	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Cebu	Partly Cloudy
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	Tacloban	Partly Cloudy
Clark Zone	Cloudy with Rains	Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Partly Cloudy

COMPILED BY: SCHATZI QUODALA, PDI RESEARCH/07/09/07 SOURCE: PAGASA

More raps filed vs ex-RSBS head

Ombudsman finds cause in P85-B advance

By Jocelyn R. Uy

THE OMBUDSMAN YESTERDAY APPROVED the indictment of retired Brig. Gen. Jose Ramiscal, former Armed Forces of the Philippines-Retirement and Separation Benefits System (RSBS) president, for four more counts of graft.

These were in addition to the 13 counts for graft, 12 counts for falsification of public documents and an estafa case filed against Ramiscal since 1999.

The latest charges are in connection with the anomalous release of RSBS funds worth more than P85 million to bankroll the development of a parcel of land at the Manila Bay Reclamation Area.

Joining Ramiscal in the new cases is former RSBS executive vice president retired Col. Oscar Martinez, whose prosecution for 21 counts of violation of the antigraft law was also approved by the Ombudsman.

The Ombudsman likewise recommended that other officers who conspired with the two in the questionable transactions be identified and subjected to a preliminary investigation.

The earlier charges against Ramiscal in the Sandiganbayan were in connection with the alleged irregular acquisition of land worth P37 million by the defunct AFP-RSBS in Tanauan, Batangas, in 1996 and 1997.

The new charges showed the RSBS, during Ramiscal and Martinez's terms, extended interest-free advances in the amount of P85,086,620.50 to Bay Resources Development Corp. (Bradco) from March 23, 1995, to Dec. 13, 1998.

Bradco was a joint venture of RSBS and private contractor DM Wenceslao and Associates Inc., owned by Delfin Wenceslao, to undertake the purchase and development of a 10-hectare property in the Manila-Cavite Coastal Road and Reclamation project.

The 29-page joint resolution issued by the investigating panel of the Office of the Ombudsman yesterday stated that since Bradco had an authorized capitalization of only P16 million, the RSBS was only required to release a maximum of P8 million as additional equity.

Therefore, the release of over P85 million without the authorization of the Board of Trustees was illegal, the resolution stated.

Ramiscal, in his counter-affidavit, claimed the amount represented the 50-percent share of RSBS in financing the operating expenses of Bradco, including real estate and income taxes.

He also made it clear that the payment of real estate and income taxes did not require the endorsement of the Board of Trustees and that the amount would later become part of RSBS' investment in Bradco.

But the antigraft body rejected Ramiscal's claim, citing a 1989 AFP circular which stated that "The Board of Trustees shall, among others ... pass upon such investment proposals as may be submitted to it."

Even if the advances were considered additional investments, it should have been approved by the Board of Trustees, said the resolution.

"A thorough and circumspect evaluation of the evidence presented before this office leads us to conclude that probable cause exists to hold respondents [Ramiscal and Martinez] liable for violation of the antigraft law," ruled the Ombudsman.

The reported anomalies led to the collapse of the RSBS, which was created to protect the retirement and separation benefits of the country's soldiers.

WHAT WENT BEFORE

IN 1999, the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee asked government prosecutors to charge then Gen. Jose Ramiscal Jr., former president of the Armed Forces of the Philippines-Retirement and Separation Benefits System, for having been a "willing patsy" of former AFP Chief of Staff Lisandro Abadia in granting special favors to private investors who were able to use RSBS funds.

Ramiscal was also said to have granted "interest-free behest loans" amounting to P310 million to two companies, in violation of the antigraft law.

According to the committee report, about P3.3 billion of the separation, pension and retirement money of the country's soldiers "had been dissipated or put to grave risk" because of the board of directors' indiscriminate granting of loans.

Among the favored borrowers of RSBS were Chinatown Steel Towers Inc., which borrowed close to P900 million; RSBS Land Inc., P200 million; Riviera Gold Club Inc., P109 million; Bay Resources Development Corp., P85 million; AFP Theater, P20 million, and Antipolo Properties Inc., P13.5 million.

Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr., who drafted the committee report, said the loans were considered behest "because they were made by and between companies with interlocking directorates or major stockholders and because of the unusual speed of their approval aside from their being usually interest-free and without collateral."

The RSBS problem was among the issues raised by the Oakwood mutineers in July 2003. They demanded that the government "update and accelerate the audit and ongoing investigation of the reported anomalies."

Inquirer Research

4 gov't execs face dismissal for graft

By Jocelyn R. Uy

FOUR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WERE ORdered dismissed yesterday by the Office of the Ombudsman for violating the antigraft law.

The antigraft body identified them as Insp. Joel Candelario of the Bureau of Immigration; Leovigildo de los Reyes Jr. and Elizabeth Driz, division chief and computer programmer respectively, of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office, and Evelyn Ancheta, a revenue collection officer in Tabuk, Kalinga.

According to case records, Candelario was caught receiving a bribe of P20,000 during an entrapment operation conducted by the National Bureau of Investigation.

The operation stemmed from a complaint filed by Roy Rarang alleging that Candelario had demanded P20,000, in addition to the P104,000 he had paid earlier for the speedy processing of a friend's permanent visa.

The visa which Candelario facilitated later turned out to be fake and his friend's name was not recorded in the immigration bureau's official list, Rarang's complaint said.

On the other hand, the two employees of the PCSO On-Line Division were dismissed for allegedly failing to remit lotto sale proceeds worth more than P380,000 from May 21 to June 3, 2001.

A complaint lodged by the PCSO said Driz was responsible for remitting the daily sales of the lotto outlet, while De los Reyes was in charge of ensuring that the money was promptly deposited in the bank.

A Commission on Audit report said the missing proceeds were not immediately turned over to the bank.

In their counter-affidavit, De los Reyes and Driz denied the charges. But the antigraft body rejected their claims, stating that there was sufficient cause to believe that they had connived with each other to appropriate the missing funds.

At the same time, the Ombudsman also found revenue collection officer Ancheta guilty of misappropriating public funds worth more than P260,000 based on a complaint filed by the Commission on Audit.

The COA said that despite repeated demands, Ancheta failed to liquidate the missing amount or submit her counter-affidavit.

Migz dislodges Koko after latest canvass

By Nikko Dizon and Dona Pazzibugan

TEAM UNITY'S JUAN MIGUEL "Migz" Zubiri dislodged the Genuine Opposition's Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III from the 12th and last slot in the senatorial race after returns from Bogo, Cebu, and 38 precincts in Pagalungan, Maguindanao, were canvassed yesterday afternoon by the Commission on Elections sitting as the National Board of Canvassers.

The NBC also tallied returns from Bais, Negros Oriental, but did not include the votes in the Comelec's official count pending the resolution of a petition to declare a failure of elections in the town.

Without the Bais returns, the unofficial tally by the media showed that Zubiri now had 10,987,669 votes compared to Pimentel's 10,977,885, for a difference of 9,784 votes.

Zubiri got 12,656 votes in Bogo and 1,216 votes in the Pagalungan precincts.

Pimentel, on the other hand, received 4,434 votes in Bogo and 740 in Pagalungan.

Bais gave Zubiri 13,381 votes and Pimentel 5,473 votes.

On the other hand, TU's tally, which included Bais, showed that Zubiri had 11,006,996 votes compared to Pimentel's 10,989,067, for a difference of 17,929 votes.

Zubiri's lawyer, George Garcia, asked the NBC to proclaim his client.

Immediately, Leila de Lima, Pimentel's lawyer, moved to oppose Garcia's motion, citing the GO candidate's pending petition in the Supreme Court to stop any proclamation of the 12th winning senatorial candidate.

"Following judicial courtesy, the Comelec should wait for the SC decision on candidate Pimentel's petition," De Lima said.

The NBC adjourned without proclaiming anyone.

The Comelec en banc met last night to discuss whether or not somebody should be proclaimed today.

"We will all know tomorrow (today) what our decision would be," Abalos said in a press conference early last night.

Aside from Maguindanao, Pimentel asked the Comelec to set aside the votes from 10 other municipalities in Mindanao where he claimed Zubiri had obtained "statistically improbable" results.

Pimentel said he asked the Comelec to retabulate the results from the following municipalities: Sultan Naga Dimaporo, Salvador and Matungao in Lanao del Norte; Sultan Kudarat, Datu Blah Sinsuat and Kabuntalan in Shariff Kabunsuan; Lutayan and Palimbang in Sultan Kudarat, and Patikul and Luuk in Sulu.

Pope thinks of Bossi

ROME—POPE BENEdict XVI said Monday he thinks "every day" about an Italian missionary who was kidnapped in the southern Philippines a month ago by suspected Muslim extremists.

"My thoughts go every day to Father (Giancarlo) Bossi," the Pope told reporters as he arrived at his alpine vacation home in Lorenzago di Cadore in northern Italy for a three-week holiday.

"We hope and pray the Lord will help us," he added.

Hopes for Bossi, 57, were raised Saturday when it emerged that a fellow priest had been sent photographs of him apparently unharmed.

The digital pictures showed Bossi looking thin and haggard but otherwise well.

The Philippine government said the priest, who was taken hostage on June 10 in Zamboanga Sibugay, may be in the hands of the Abu Sayyaf bandit group.

The Italian Embassy and the Department of Foreign Affairs in Manila, meanwhile, yesterday denied a new travel advisory had been issued warning Italian tourists against traveling to Mindanao as a result of the kidnapping of Bossi. *AFP; Cynthia D. Balana*

Bishops call for Comelec revamp due to distrust

By Nikko Dizon

THE CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONference of the Philippines (CBCP) yesterday called for a revamp of the Commission on Elections, citing the public's distrust of Comelec Chair Benjamin Abalos Sr. and the other commissioners.

In a pastoral statement following their bi-annual plenary assembly over the weekend, the bishops said individuals with "unquestioned integrity and competence" should be appointed to the poll body.

The CBCP recommended a "full revamp of the Comelec, beginning with the appointment of a new chair and commissioners with unquestioned integrity and competence, especially in systems and management."

"These appointments are going to be in the hands of the President and the Commission on Appointments of the Philippine Congress, and it is our collective responsibility to monitor closely the process of selection, appointment and confirmation. There should also be serious efforts to de-politicize and professionalize the bureaucracy," the CBCP said in a statement signed by its president, Jaro Archbishop Angel Lagdameo.

Abalos yesterday appealed to the bishops to stop blaming them for the apparent failure of the electoral system.

"I hope the CBCP would also look into the people's moral degradation. Don't you think the moral values of our people is all our concern, that it is all our duty to address this problem," Abalos said, reacting to the CBCP's statement on the need for electoral reforms.

"They should look into why people sell their votes and why politicians buy them. Why would they blame the Comelec for all this? This is very unfair," he said.

Abalos admitted the performance of the Comelec in the May elections was not perfect and appealed to the public and critics "to give us a chance."

He recommended a review of the electoral system, which he said had hampered the Comelec from performing its duties well. *With a report from Tina G. Santos*

Nothing vulgar in terms used in texts, says DepEd exec

By TJ Burgonio

EDUCATION OFFICIALS YESTERday downplayed the errors uncovered by academician Antonio Calipjo Go in textbooks supposedly in circulation in public and private elementary schools.

"Those are alleged errors," Education Undersecretary Franklin Sunga said in reaction to the full-page ad put out by Go in the INQUIRER on Monday, where he listed hundreds of errors he had found in English and Pilipino textbooks.

Sunga said he didn't find the terms *titi* (penis) and *titatita* (pimp) in "Hiyas sa Pagbasa," a textbook for Grade 5 students, vulgar.

The terms were used in the proper context, he said, adding that the textbook instructs students to look up the meaning of the terms, while supplying definitions.

"The way they were used wasn't vulgar. If at all, they were designed to boost the skills of the students," said Sunga in a phone interview, adding that there was no reason to correct the textbook.

Go, academic supervisor at Marian School of Quezon City who blew the whistle on other error-filled textbooks in the past, said the use of the terms, among others, was "abominable." He said that despite the errors, the Department of Education had ordered 69,409 copies.

Sunga said the department could not confirm the alleged errors detected by Go in English textbooks for Grades 1 to 6 students in public elementary schools since he did not mention "specific references."

Sunga, however, said he had ordered the DepEd's Instruction Materials Council Secretariat, which does context evaluation of textbooks, to "look for these books" and verify the alleged errors.

"I want to see how they are used," Sunga said.

All the current English textbooks for public elementary and high school students will be replaced by new ones now being evaluated by the Ateneo de Manila University and the University of the Philippines, he said.

Arroyos deny backing Garcia

What we signed was solidarity pact, say Dato, Iggy

By Norman Bordadora

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARroyo's son and brother-in-law denied having signed a resolution supporting Cebu Rep. Pablo Garcia for Speaker of the House of Representatives as reported last week.

In separate interviews, Camarines Sur Rep. Diosdado "Dato" "Arroyo and his uncle, Negros Occidental Rep. Ignacio "Iggy" Arroyo, said they would rally behind whomever the party—the Kabalikat ng Malayang Pilipino or Kampi—chooses to support in the fight for the speakership of the incoming 14th Congress.

"What we signed was a solidarity pact that we, members of Kampi, would abide by a party decision to vote for only one administration candidate for Speaker," Iggy Arroyo said when contacted by phone.

He vehemently denied signing a resolution that named that candidate.

Dato Arroyo confirmed that he, too, had signed the agreement to unite behind a common party candidate.

"But the agreement ends there," Dato said. He added that, personally he had yet to make up his mind who to vote for between Speaker Jose de Venecia and Garcia.

"Let's just see how this develops," Iggy said.

"Every member must abide by the party stand," he added.

The Negros representative said he would not go on record as to who he would vote for between De Venecia and Garcia.

"There are many within the administration vying for the speakership as in any democratic country. This shows democracy at work. It has been narrowed down to two or three," Iggy said, adding that Kampi had 50 members in the House.

Aside from De Venecia and Garcia, administration stalwarts Edelmiro Amante and Mary Ann Susano had also declared they were vying for the leadership of the House. Amante has since backed out of the race in favor of De Venecia.

Earlier, Manila Rep. and Kampi member Amado Bagatsing claimed the Arroyos' support of the Kampi position of having one common candidate meant they supported Garcia.

Bagatsing over the weekend said President Arroyo had practically endorsed Garcia for Speaker when her son Dato and her brother-in-law Iggy signed the Kampi solidarity pact.

"Kampi is pushing for the election of Garcia as Speaker in order to introduce reforms in the House and make it a more potent instrument for pursuit of the people's interest," Bagatsing said.

Kampi president Luis Villafuerte supports Garcia. However, Kampi chair Ronaldo Puno, secretary of the Department of Interior and Local Government, wants the party to support De Venecia.

The President had said that she would remain neutral in the speakership contest because she did not want to interfere in an internal affair of the House.

Meanwhile, a press statement from the House said a total of 176 coalition allies had endorsed De Venecia for a fifth term as Speaker.

"The President's son, (Pampanga) Rep. Mikey Arroyo (the third Arroyo in the House), and his uncle, Rep. Iggy Arroyo, are my most effective campaign managers in my bid for a fifth term as Speaker," the press statement quoted De Venecia as saying.

During the weekend, Assistant Majority leader Del de Guzman and Ilocos Norte Rep. Roque Ablan said De Venecia deserved to be Speaker because he had shown "leadership by consensus" and had launched peace efforts to end the decades-old separatist movement in Mindanao and the long drawnout communist rebellion.

"He is a consensus-builder and an effective peacemaker," the statement said.

Misuari may fly to Jeddah for talks

By DJ Yap

IT'S FINAL. AFTER MUCH LEgal wrangling, detained Moro leader Nur Misuari will be flying to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, later this month to lead the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) delegation in the tripartite talks for peace in Mindanao.

In a three-page order, Judge Winlove Dumayas of Makati Regional Trial Court Branch 59 granted Misuari permission to leave the country on July 16 in time for the July 17-19 peace talks among the government, MNLF and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, after the prosecution did not object to his participation.

The court, however, said the conditions set by the prosecution for the leave must be strictly followed.

Among these are that Misuari must be provided with adequate security and he must strictly follow the itinerary, which stipulates that he must be back in the country by July 21.

Misuari is under house arrest on rebellion charges in connection with an uprising he led in Jolo, Sulu, in November 2001 in which over a hundred were killed.

In the last elections, he ran for governor of Sulu but lost.

Misuari, a former governor of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, said the peace talks would go a long way toward resolving the conflict in the South.

"There has been a big problem in our region, particularly on the island of Jolo. We're engaged in a continuing war, but always in the exercise of self-defense. We're always at the receiving end," he said.

With the talks, "we can resume our march toward peace in Mindanao," he said.

Misuari, who will travel with his spiritual adviser, Ustadz Usman, had said he was an "indispensable party to the tripartite meeting or, at the very least, his personal attendance would be conducive to a fruitful income."

He also sought permission to go on an "umra," a lesser pilgrimage than the "hajj," in Mecca and have an audience with King Abdullah at his Royal Palace in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Although Dumayas said he was allowing Misuari to perform the "umra," he did not say if he was granting permission for an audience with the king.

Philippine Economic Zone Authority
Bataan Economic Zone, Mariveles, Bataan
Telephone (6347) 935-4004; 561-2451 • Fax (6347) 935-6046

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

1. The PHILIPPINE ECONOMIC ZONE AUTHORITY – BATAAN ECONOMIC ZONE (PEZA-BEZ), through its Corporate Budget for the CY 2007 intends to apply the sum of **Php 12,826,439.20** being the **Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)** to payments under the contract for the **Security Services for the Bataan Economic Zone (BEZ)** located at BEZ, Mariveles, Bataan. Bids received in excess of the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) shall be automatically rejected at Bid Opening.
2. The PEZA-BEZ now invites sealed Bids from Eligible Bidders for the above mentioned contract as described below:
   Brief Description : Supply of Personnel, Equipment, Implements, Supplies and Supervision
   Contract Duration : One (1) calendar year
   Delivery Period : Within 15 days after Notice to Proceed
   The description of an eligible bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, **INSTRUCTION TO BIDDERS (ITB)**.
3. Prospective bidder shall submit together with the other eligibility requirements proofs of ownership or lease contracts for the required vehicles and equipment as listed in the T.O.R.
4. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act", and is restricted to Filipino Citizens/sole proprietorships, organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stocks belonging to citizens of the Philippines, or to citizens of or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to Republic Act 5183 (R.A. 5183) and subject to Commonwealth Act 138 (C.A. 138). Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB. The bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) shall advance to the post-qualification stage in order to finally determine responsiveness of the bid to technical and financial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bidder (LCRB) who was determined as such during the post-qualification procedure.
5. Interested bidders may obtain further information from PEZA-BEZ and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Mondays to Fridays.
6. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from July 16 to 23, 2007, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., from the address below upon submission of a **Letter of Intent (LOI)** and a certified copy of their **Phil G-EPS Registration Certificate** and the **BIR e-fps Enrollment Certificate** upon payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of One Thousand Pesos Only (Php1,000.00). The method of payment will be on a **cash basis** only. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.
7. The PEZA-BEZ will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on **July 30, 2007, 2:00 p.m.** at the Audio-Visual Room, 2nd Floor, BEZ Administration Building, BEZ, Mariveles, Bataan.
8. Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered to the address below on or before 1:30 P.M. of August 14, 2007. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the form of cash, certified check, cashier's check, manager's check, bank draft or irrevocable Letter of Credit in the amount of not less than Php 128,264.39, Bank Guarantee in the amount of not less than Php 192,396 58 or in the form of Surety Bond in the amount of not less than Php 320,660.97. Late Bids shall not be accepted.
9. Bid opening shall be on August 14, 2007 at 2:00 P.M. at the Audio-Visual Room, 2nd Floor, BEZ Administration Building, BEZ, Mariveles, Bataan. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidder's representatives who choose to attend.
10. In case any of the above dates is declared a special non-working holiday, it will automatically be reset on the next working day.
11. The PEZA-BEZ reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, and to annul the bidding process and reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

Philippine Economic Zone Authority-BEZ
Bids and Awards Committee Secretariat
EMD Office, Ground Floor, BEZ
Administration Building, BEZ, Mariveles, Bataan
Tel. No. (047) 935-4008 / Fax No. (047) 935-6046
E-mail: bez_bac1@yahoo.com
Website: www.peza.gov.ph

(Sgd.) **DIONISIO T. SAMEN**
BEZ-BAC Chairman

Noted:
(Sgd.) **DANTE M. QUINDOZA**
Zone Administrator

(PDI–July 10 & 17, 2007)

Storm expected Wednesday

A TROPICAL STORM is expected to dump more rains in the western part of the country tomorrow, the Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa) said yesterday.

The storm, packing maximum winds of 65 kph, is expected to enter the country from the Pacific Ocean just after noon, Pagasa senior weather specialist Robert Sawi said.

"It's weak, but it's expected to bring more rains to the western section of the country. The least it could do is bring more rains, that's why we have to prepare for floods," he said in an interview.

As of yesterday morning, the storm (international name: Man-yi) was spotted more than 2,000 km from Mindanao and less than 1,000 km from the country's eastern boundary.

The storm, the second to hit the Philippines this year, is expected to enhance the "habagat," the southwesterly wind from the Indian Ocean that has brought rain the past days, according to Sawi. *TJ Burgonio*

Lose 10 lbs. in 5 weeks!

Losing weight has never been this easy. Like Dawn, you can lose as much as 10 lbs. in as short as 5 weeks! Try Dawn's **Weight-Loss Accelerator Program** at Marie France and lose all those unwanted pounds, inches, flabs and fats in your body. Lose weight with no exercise, no crazy diets, no pills and no surgery! As Dawn said, "Just do what I did – regular treatments at Marie France!" Soon, you'll get that slim, sexy figure you deserve – and make heads turn!

FREE Weight-Loss Starter Program
upon enrollment from July 9-14, 2007 only!
Per DTI-NCR Permit # 3056, Series of 2007

Call 894-BODY (2639)

marie France

MAKATI ORTIGAS TOMAS MORATO BINONDO ALABANG SHAW CONGRESSIONAL PAMPANGA • TEL: 961-2981 CEBU • TEL: 233-7637

6 AFP agents linked to Jonas abduction

From page A1

manuel Velasco, who heads the Presidential Task Force Against Media Harassment, named five of the six as:

- Philippine Air Force members M/Sgt. Aron Arroyo and Cpl. Maria Joana Francisco, purportedly also members of Military Intelligence Group 15 of the Isafp.
- T/Sgt. Jason Roxas of the Army.
- 1st Lt. Jaime Mendaro of the Army, who is also assigned to the 56th Infantry Battalion.
- Lt. Col. Noel Clement of the Army and assigned to the Escort and Security Battalion.

The sixth military man was a certain T.L. or "team leader," supposedly also with MIG 15 of the Isafp.

"If the source is to be believed, it is political," Velasco said when asked the reasons for Burgos' abduction. "He is allegedly a member of the NPA (New People's Army)."

Velasco said the plan to abduct Burgos was supposedly hatched in October last year.

JONAS BURGOS

SENIOR State Prosecutor Emmanuel Velasco presents to the media sketches of the suspects in the abduction of Jonas Burgos during Monday's press conference at the Department of Justice building in Manila. EDWIN BACASMAS

Clement denies involvement

Velasco said he had directed the NBI to also summon Clement because the license plate of the vehicle identified as the one used in Burgos' abduction was later traced to the 56th IB, where Clement had been previously assigned.

Clement was the predecessor of Lt. Col. Melquiades Feliciano at the 56th IB. Feliciano was earlier placed under preventive suspension while the provost marshal investigated how the license plate ended up on the alleged kidnap vehicle.

Clement expressed surprise he was included in the investigation but said he was ready to face it.

Clement denied involvement but said "I will always be available for investigation."

Two names dropped

Velasco's directive came four days after the INQUIRER reported an intelligence agent as saying that a unit within the AFP's intelligence service was behind Burgos' disappearance.

Isafp chief Maj. Gen. Delfin Bangit said the names of officers mentioned by Velasco do not appear in his agency's roster, the Associated Press reported.

Apparently dropped from the DOJ's list of suspects were two other Army soldiers who were earlier linked to the abduction—Cpl. Castro Bugalon and Pfc. Jose Villena, both of the 56th IB.

Bugalon and Villena's names surfaced during police investigation after the license plate of the vehicle seen used by Burgos' abductors was traced to another vehicle which the two soldiers impounded in an anti-illegal logging operation in Bulacan last year.

The two soldiers later denied any role in Burgos' disappearance before investigators in Camp Crame and the Commission on Human Rights.

Esperon's reservations

Away on a trip to Malaysia, Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Hermogenes Esperon Jr. last night said he had yet to see the DOJ directive but he would ask Bangit to check.

"If that is allowed as a legal procedure, then so be it," Esperon said in a phone interview.

But he expressed some reservations on the DOJ's reliance on an "anonymous informant."

"They (informants) should also come out so we can face the proper forum," Esperon said.

Velasco said the NBI was also asked to look into the purported similarities between the artist's sketches of the male and female suspects in the Burgos disappearance with the sketches of the suspects in the abduction of the "Erap 5" urban poor leaders, or supporters of former President Joseph Estrada.

"The cartographic sketches were furnished by two different police units or agencies," he pointed out.

Backup vehicles

Velasco also said two other vehicles were allegedly used in Burgos' abduction and that he had likewise asked the NBI to investigate this.

The two vehicles—a red Mitsubishi Lancer (WAM-155) and a maroon Toyota Altis (XBC-881)—were allegedy used as backup vehicles.

Velasco also told the NBI to place two witnesses, a security guard and a restaurant employee, under the Witness Protection Program.

"I asked the NBI to come up with their initial report within 10 days because what is involved here is the life of Mr. Burgos. We are racing against time," he told reporters.

Burgos was abducted by three men and a woman from the Ever Gotesco Mall in Fairview, Quezon City, on April 28.

NBI Director Nestor Mantaring and Deputy Director Reynaldo Esmeralda were present at Velasco's announcement at the Department of Justice.

Higher interest at stake

According to Velasco, his leads came from an informant who approached him last week. He declined to provide details about the informant for the latter's safety.

Asked how confident he was about the information he got from his source, he said: "That's why we are asking NBI to double-check the information."

Velasco said he was not saying the military men were already guilty, when asked if he wasn't being unfair to the six military personnel.

"No, we said 'allegedly.' But remember, there is a higher interest at stake here. The higher interest here is the life of Mr. Burgos. It's most unfair if we will not do anything to find him. That's the higher interest, there is a hierarchy of values," he said.

He said the military personnel could not ignore the NBI summons to appear, saying they had to respect other government agencies.

The NBI will also request pictures and the personnel data sheets of the military personnel.

Informant's motive

Velasco said the informant came out because the latter wanted to help save Burgos.

Esmeralda also said the NBI had asked the Land Transportation Office for the identity of the owners of the two supposed backup vehicles.

Burgos' mother, Edita, who has pointed to the military as being behind her son's disappearance, could not be reached for comment on Velasco's announcement despite repeated calls to her phone.

But hours before the announcement, during a meeting with Velasco at the DOJ, Edita said she was grateful that people were coming out to share information about her son's disappearance.

She also said she would rather wait for the information given him by Velasco to be verified.

Jonas' mother

"It's something new, and we welcome all new leads and until it's confirmed, I cannot be convinced. But we welcome these people who have the guts to come out and add information to what we already have," Edita told reporters.

She also said she believed that her son was still alive, pointing out that University of the Philippines student Sherlyn Cadapan turned up at a relative's house months after she went missing.

"I believe he's still alive. (In) the case of Sherlyn, after 11 months she surfaced alive and well. So I really pray that Jonas is OK," she said.

Asked if she thought the military would investigate its own people in light of reports that some people in Isafp might be responsible for her son's disappearance, Edita said remarks by Esperon were very telling.

She said Esperon had labeled the accusation about the Isafp as "fantastic."

"Well, you can draw from that," she said.

No answer

Burgos, 36, had conducted a farming seminar on the day he disappeared. He was later to meet family members but never showed up and did not answer calls to his mobile phone.

Burgos' abduction is the most high-profile in a series of attacks on left-wing activists.

The local human rights group Karapatan has reported more than 800 people, about half of them left-wing activists, have been killed in politically motivated attacks by suspected security forces since President Macapagal-Arroyo took office in 2001.

With reports from Volt Contreras, Christine O. Avendaño and AP

House fiscal discipline nets millions in savings

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

June 30, 2004

Her Excellency
President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo
Malacanan, Manila

Thru: Secretary Emilia Boncodin
Department of Budget and Management

Dear President Arroyo,

As my term as Speaker of the House of Representatives of the 12th Congress draws to a close today, I am honored to inform Your Excellency and Secretary Emilia Boncodin of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) that we have effected at least Fifty Million Pesos (P50 Million) in savings of the House of Representatives for the period of January 1 to June 30, 2004.*

This is inspite of the decrease of the current House budget by P300 Million compared to that of the year 2000 and the increase in the number of party-list congressmen from 7 in 2001 to 12 in 2002 to 19 in 2003. By next week, their number will have increased to about 24.

We leave it to your discretion if the House should transmit to the National Treasury the amount of P50 Million—or keep the amount and for DBM to consider it as part of the House's third quarter allocation, thereby reducing the next budget remittance to the House by P50 Million.

We, the leaders and members of the House, the House Committee on Accounts, the Office of the Secretary General, and the Finance Department, are proud of this modest achievement in the light of Your Excellency's and our own constant call for frugal spending by the units of government.

We fully support your administration's thrust to enhance fiscal discipline in the public sector and we will continue to do our best to help in this effort.

We are honored by the opportunity to have helped set an example for the other departments of government.

With best wishes.

Very truly yours,

Jose de Venecia, Jr.
Speaker

Rep. Robert Ace Barbers
Chairman, Committee on Accounts

Rep. Agapito Aquino
Acting Minority Leader

Roberto Nazareno
Secretary General

**At closing, the P50-M savings reached more than P60-M.*

Further, part of the House's 2006 savings has been used for the computerization of the institution, bringing it to the digital age and providing congressmen an electronic link to the plenary hall, their congressional districts, and the global information superhighway. From the House savings we will also build a four-storey structure with a first phase of P70-M, to provide additional offices and committee meeting rooms for the expanded membership of the 14th Congress, which will likely reach 240-plus. Bidding for the new building has started. This was officially communicated to President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, then outgoing Budget Secretary Romulo Neri, and then concurrent Budget Secretary Rolando Andaya, Jr.

The P26-million gym in the Batasan complex, built from the House savings in 2006, has been described by the Commission on Audit as a "beautiful structure built at the least cost among government gymnasiums". It was inaugurated June 7, 2007, the day the House launched celebrations for its 100th anniversary, and is now being used by House Members and employees.

Correction

IN THE JULY 8 ISSUE, a Lifestyle feature on Page E4—"Videoke for OPM fans"—misstated the name of the videoke system that was the focus of the article. The videoke system is Ziller—not Zifler or Zifier—Realsound Portable Box Videoke.

* * *

Readers may send their requests for correction of factual errors in writing to the Day Desk, Philippine Daily Inquirer, PDI Building, Chino Roces Avenue corner Mascardo Street, Makati City, fax Nos. 897-47-93/94; e-mail address: daydesk@inquirer.com.ph.

Complaints about lack of fairness or objectivity may be sent to Lorna Kalaw Tirol, readers' advocate, e-mail address: readersadvocate@inquirer.com. ph or fax Nos. 897-47-93/94, Attn: Readers Advocate. Her phone number is 897-8808 Local 342.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Tuesday, July 10, 2007
14th Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Gen 32:23-33
Gospel: Matthew 9:32-38

Some people brought to Jesus a man who was dumb because he was possessed by a demon. When the demon was driven out, the dumb man began to speak. The crowds were astonished and said, "Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel." (But the Pharisees said, "He drives away demons with the help of the prince of demons.")

Jesus went around all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the Kingdom, and he cured every sickness and disease. When he saw the crowds he was moved with pity, for they were harassed and helpless like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is abundant but the workers are only few. Ask the master of the harvest to send workers to gather his harvest."

Commentary

Much later in the story, before he meets his brother whom he had wronged so many years before, Jacob takes his wives (Rachel and Leah) and his children, and takes them across where they will be safe. Jacob has prospered and his brothers as well. But before he meets Esau he wrestles all night with an angel (or his own soul/conscience) and his name is changed to Israel. He is blessed and marked by the struggle with God. Because of this, he limps for the rest of his life. His name is his people—those who contend with the Divine and with human beings but prevail—it is in itself another promise.

Jesus is brought a man who is mute and tormented (frustrated and unable to communicate or relate to others). Jesus casts out the demon (what hinders the man from being human) and yet he is accused of acting in the power of a demon himself. He then leaves and continues to heal, his heart wracked with pity for the crowds' needs, weaknesses, lacks, and hopes. They are prostrate with exhaustion (think of so many countries today: Sudan, Palestine, Iraq, those hit by the tsunami, by war, and other calamities). And Jesus begs us to be a laborer to go and bring in his harvest and be moved to pity by the suffering all around us.

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: cci@claret.org; Websites: http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications) & http://www.claretphilippines.org (Claretian Missionaries in the Philippines)

GE Money Bank

A Savings Bank

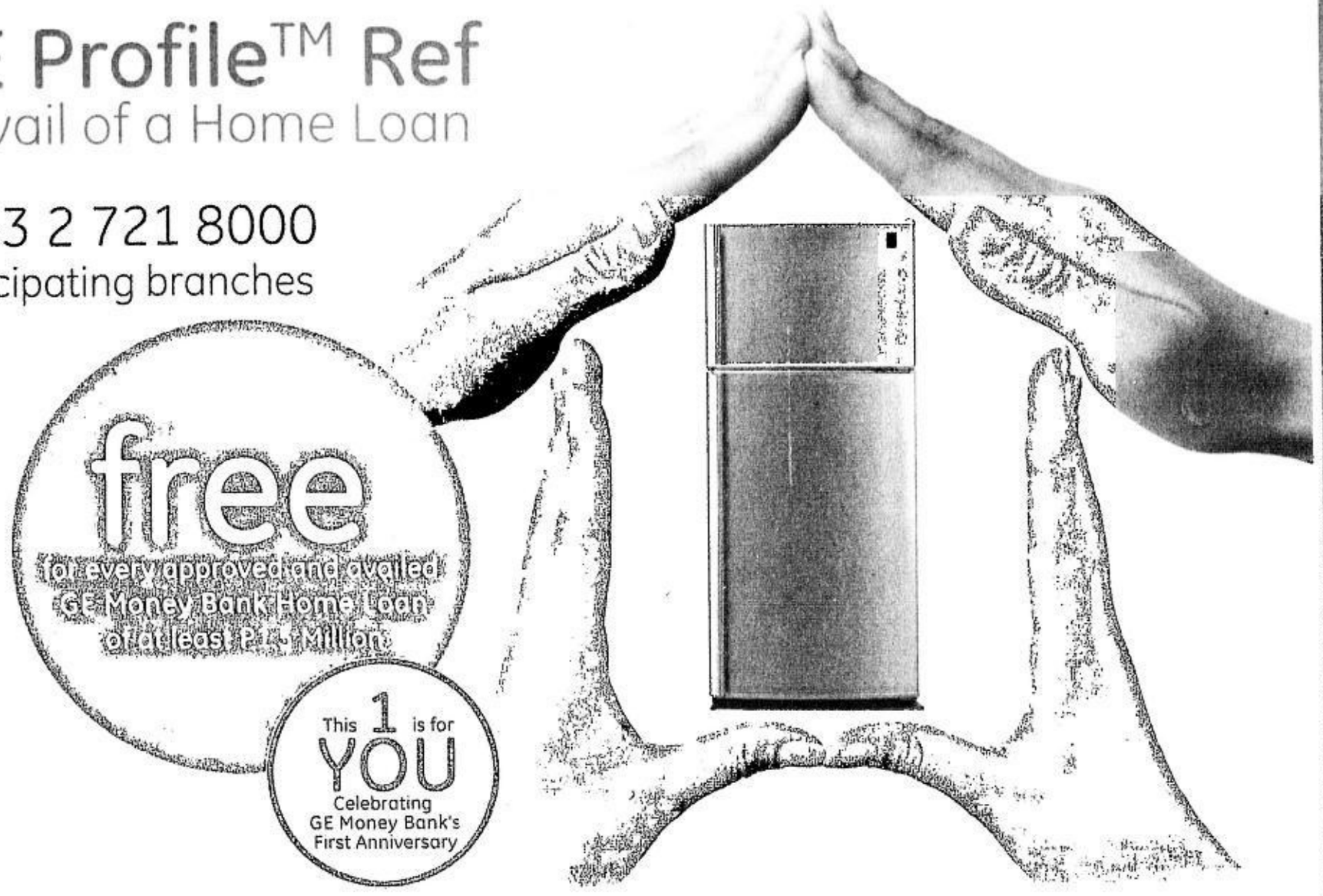
HOME LOANS

FREE GE Profile™ Ref

when you avail of a Home Loan

Call us at +63 2 721 8000

or apply at participating branches



GE imagination at work

SLIMMERS WORLD

BUY 1 MONTH GET 1 MONTH FREE!

NO MONTHLY DUES ON LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP!!!

FRIENDSHIP MONTH
Enroll with a friend and get a further
10% DISCOUNT
on all programmes.
(JULY only)

BUY 15 TREATMENTS GET 15 FREE!

MESO WHITE
MESO REJUVENATION
COSMETIC FILLERS
NUTRACELL-FACE
WART REMOVAL
LASER ACNE TREATMENT
SKIN WHITENING
FACIAL

PERSONAL TRAINING & ALL THE LATEST AEROBICS.

LASER HAIR REMOVAL
Best price
in the Philippines!

SMOOTH THOSE LUMPS & BUMPS WITH THE SPOT-REDUCTION SYSTEM!!!

CALL OUR ONE-STOP SUPER CENTERS FOR *FITNESS, SKIN, BODY* AND *FACE*.

FITNESS HOTLINE: 536-3333
SKIN HOTLINE: 525-8771
MOBILE NUMBER: 091-SLIMMERS (75466377)
www.slimmersworld.com.ph inquire@slimmersworld.com.ph

ADRIATICO-MALATE	ALABANG	BINONDO	CALOOCAN	CEBU	GREENHILLS
May	Gemma	Razel	Olive	Juna	Eleanor
5360619/5259891	8090395/7750587	2421312/2420728	3657653	231 3254	7266505/7261526
0921 4669423	0918 3912510	0917 8224399	0915 8804668	0915 8797217	0917 8261204

H.V.DELA COSTA	LEGASPI VILL.	MEGAMALL	PASAY ROAD	PASIG	SM NORTH	SUBIC
Emily	Lani	Ruby	Maan	Abbie	Michelle	Beth
8140138/8140151	8938935	6313869/6377543	8871335/8873530	6815333/6473816	9295429/9264215	2526514
0928 2107247	0928 9719938	0916 2479753	0915 6893088	0928 4763108	0905 2690717	0928 6712299

Guingona says RA No. 9372 'worse than martial law'

By Jeromo Aning

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF Republic Act No. 9372, or the antiterror law, is "worse than martial law" and will lead to human degradation instead of security, former Vice President Teofisto Guingona Jr. said yesterday.

Guingona, Church leaders and other human rights advocates took part yesterday in the launching of the Ecumenical Voice Peace and Human Rights in the Philippines, which aims to work for the repeal of RA No. 9372, also called the Human Security Act of 2007.

"This is a continuous fight; we started fighting this [kind of measure] during the martial law days. This [law] is against human rights because our rights enshrined in the Constitution are disregarded," Guingona told the INQUIRER after the forum.

"Supposedly, it's a Human Security Act, but it's actually Human Degradation Act," he said.

He was joined by Caloocan Bishop Deogracias Yñiguez, Bayan Muna counsel Neri Colmenares, Fr. Joe Dizon and other leaders of lay groups and human rights organizations.

The convenors signed a manifesto demanding an end to extrajudicial killings and forced disappearances which, they said, would grow worse when RA No. 9372 is enforced.

They also expressed concern about how the law would affect the government's peace talks with rebel groups that could be tagged as terrorist groups under the law.

"We believe that this law will exacerbate the human rights crisis in the country. We expect that this will result in more gross and systematic violations of human rights and political persecution of progressive groups and active critics of government under the guise of a counterterrorism program," the group said.

Dizon said the group would conduct a silent candlelight procession in Manila at the venue of the summit of extrajudicial killings to be hosted by the Supreme Court on Monday.

He said the group would mobilize support from schools and communities for the repeal of the law either by Congress or by the Supreme Court.

At the same time, the group would also set up a "citizens' watch" to avert the aggravation of human rights violations in the country when the law is implemented.

GGMA says no stopping law as bishops call for review

From page A1

Rights groups have raised a number of questions about the law, including a provision that lets police detain anyone on mere suspicion for up to three days.

The CBCP, for its part, said the HSA might be used by authorities to quell popular dissent against the Arroyo administration.

"We feel the atmosphere created by this law and its impending implementation calls on us to appeal to those concerned to review it," CBCP president Archbishop Angel Lagdameo said in a statement.

Ms Arroyo declined to comment on the CBCP appeal, saying the time was up in her roundtable discussion in which a reporter was allowed to ask questions pooled from reporters covering the Malacañang beat.

Self-implementing

Ms Arroyo, however, replied "yes" when asked if the law would take effect on July 15.

"It's self-implementing," she said at the end of her roundtable discussion in the Heroes' Hall.

Last week, Deputy National Security Adviser Pedro Cabuay said Malacañang would likely put off the implementation of the HSA because the implementing rules and regulations had yet to be formulated and public discussions had yet to be conducted.

Besides, Cabuay said the HSA had not been printed in newspapers.

A six-page pullout on the antiterrorism law was published in the INQUIRER yesterday. Malacañang is also conducting the first leg of public consultations on the antiterrorism law in Cagayan de Oro. *(See related story on Page A1.)*

Ms Arroyo confirmed her attendance at the two-day Peace and Order Summit in Cagayan de Oro today, where she said one of the issues would be the antiterror law.

The President will address the summit after meeting with the Cabinet security cluster, whose members are also sitting on the Anti-Terror Council (ATC) tasked with the implementation of the HSA.

Protect human rights

While the President ignored the CBCP proposal, senators supported it.

"It really needs review to make it more responsive to the security demands of the country as well as the entire region," Sen. Panfilo Lacson said.

Sen. Aquilino Pimentel said reviewing the law would enhance the protection of human rights. "I will not shed a tear for it if it is scrapped totally," he said.

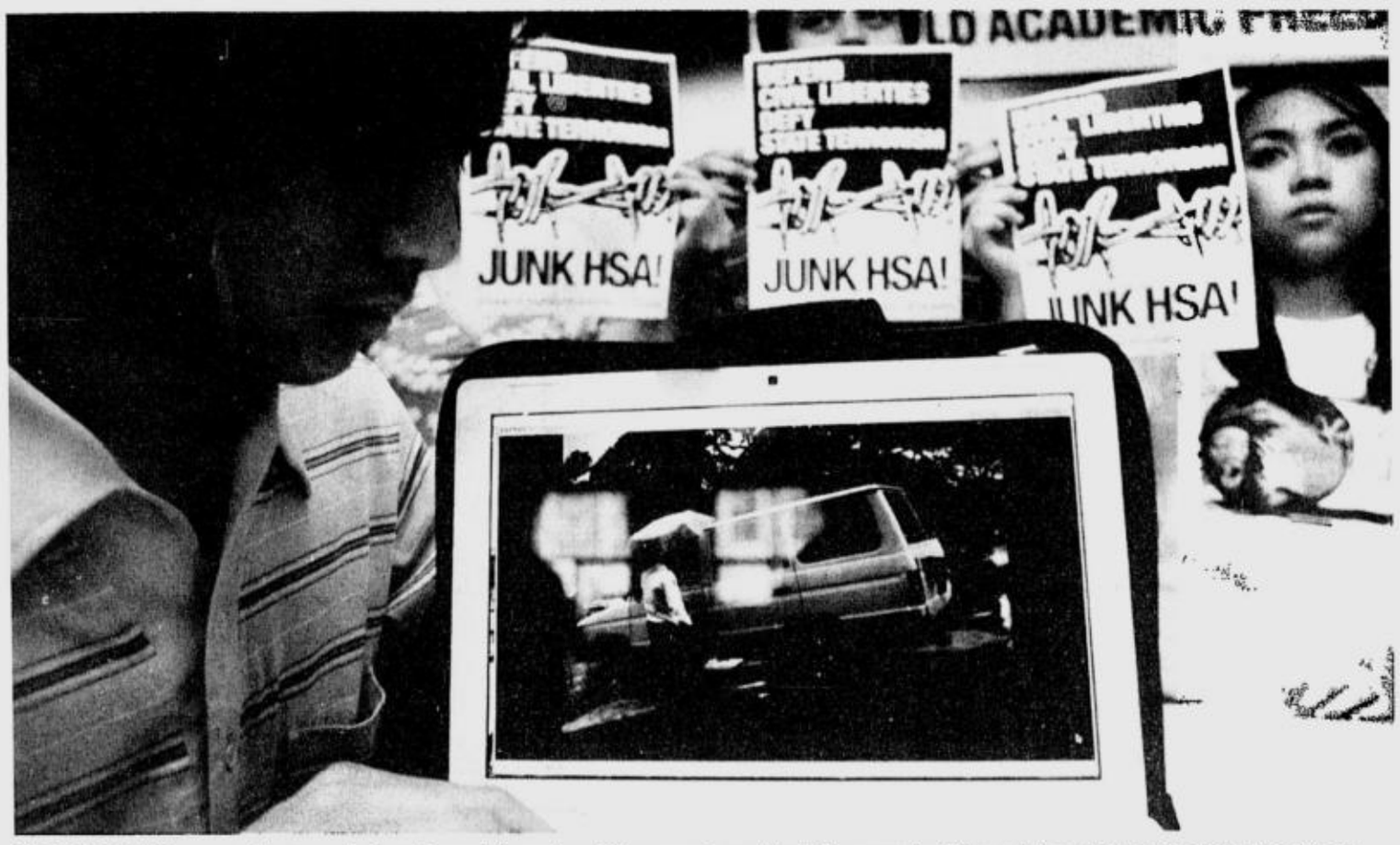
Pimentel said he was afraid of the potential abuses that government agents might commit against the people in the name of antiterrorism. "In the end, it is the state that might be committing terrorism against its own citizens," he said.

The law was enacted amid pressure from the United States, the European Union and other allies concerned about the links between international terror groups and homegrown terror groups in the country.

Ms Arroyo, who signed the HSA on March 6, had said the new law would spell the defeat of terror groups, like the Abu Sayyaf and its foreign affiliate the Jemaah Islamiyah.

Apprehensions about the law being used to suppress legitimate opposition and violation of human rights led to the lengthy debates that stalled its passage in the Senate.

The implementation of the HSA after the May 14 elections was stipulated in a special provision put up by the Senate to avoid the possibility of the law being used against the political foes of the administration.



UP STUDENTS present footage of alleged surveillance by military agents on the UP campus in Diliman. The vehicle in the video reportedly fits the description of the vehicle used to abduct Jonas Burgos from a Quezon City mall on April 28. JOAN BONDOC

Anti-Terror Council

Before Ms Arroyo made her statement, National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales told the INQUIRER that the law would be implemented on July 15 even if the Anti-Terror Council had yet to formulate the IRR.

"The law is detailed enough. It's very clear, so maybe we don't need the IRR anymore," Gonzales said.

He said this was the consensus reached by the Anti-Terror Council after holding two meetings. The ATC is composed of Ermita as chair, Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez as vice chair. Its members are Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo, acting Defense Secretary Norberto Gonzales, Interior Secretary Ronaldo Puno, Finance Secretary Margarito Teves and Gonzales as national security adviser.

Asked if arrests could be expected if there were any terror suspects, Gonzales said: "Of course." But he said the council and the secretariat, formed under RA No. 9372, must first be set up.

Gonzales said it would be up to Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita to say when law-enforcement agencies can begin using the law against terror suspects.

"He will give the formal signal that we are entitled to apply the law," Gonzales said in a phone interview.

Crimes covered by the law are piracy and mutiny in the high seas, rebellion or insurrection, coup d'etat, murder, kidnapping and serious illegal detention.

Violations of the laws on arson, toxic substances and hazardous and nuclear waste, atomic energy regulation, antihijacking, antipiracy and highway robbery, and the laws on possession, manufacture and acquisition of firearms and ammunition.

The law prescribes a penalty of 40 years in prison.

Oversight committee

Among the safeguards is the awarding of P500,000 for every day in detention to a person falsely accused of terrorism.

The law creates a Joint Oversight Committee, to be composed of five members each from the Senate and the House of Representatives, which can review the law but only one year after its initial implementation.

Unlike other laws, RA 9372 has no provision requiring the formulation of an IRR prior to its implementation, and merely mandates the publication of its provisions in the trimedia as a requirement for the law to take effect.

In Sec. 62, the special effectivity clause said that after the consolidated bill (Senate Bill No. 2137 and House Bill No. 4839) was signed into law by the President, its contents shall be published in three newspapers of general circulation, papers of local circulation in Ilocos Norte, Baguio City, Pampanga, Cebu, Iloilo, Tacloban, Cagayan de Oro, Davao and General Santos City.

TV and radio ads

It also required the airing of the law "every day at prime time for seven days, morning, noon and night" over three national television and radio networks, and in Cebu, Tacloban, Iloilo, Lanao del Sur, Cagayan de Oro, Davao City, Cotabato City and Zamboanga City.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said the publication of ads on the HSA started on Sunday in Manila Bulletin, yesterday in the INQUIRER, and today in the Philippine Star and in regional papers.

He said radio and TV spots were airing over the government stations NBN, RPN 9 and IBC 13 and in RMN, dzRH and Radyo ng Bayan.

Dodi Limcaoco, Philippine Information Agency director general who is in charge of putting out the ads, said the publication would be completed by July 14.

"We are in compliance with Section 62. So by July 15 there is no legal impediment to the implementation of the Human Security Act," Limcaoco said in a phone interview.

He refused to say how much the ads cost, saying there were special arrangements made especially with the government stations.

Summit to assess readiness

Ermita said the peace and order summit would be held to assess the government's readiness to implement the antiterror law.

"The national security Cabinet group will hold the meeting in Mindanao so that we can get a feel of the ground because it is in Mindanao where we have the big problem of the cessation and terrorist (groups)," Ermita said.

He said the summit would also dish out information to make the people understand the antiterror law better.

"There is nothing to be afraid about this law," Ermita said.

Spokesperson

Malacañang announced yesterday that Defense Undersecretary Ric Blancaflor was designated spokesperson of the council.

The National Intelligence and Coordinating Agency would serve as the council secretariat, with the National Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Immigration, the Office of Civil Defense, the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, the Anti-Money Laundering Council, the Philippine National Police acting as "support agencies" for the council. *With reports from Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and Michael C. Ubac*

Public consultation but without the public

From page A1

minus the public.

Earlier, city police chief Supt. Aurelio Trampe Jr. said the Cagayan de Oro consultations—dubbed the Mindanao Peace and Security Summit—would be multisectoral.

Indeed, a list of supposed participants furnished the INQUIRER indicated that civil society was to be represented by Davao Archbishop Fernando Capalla for the religious sector, Mindanao Business Council president Vicente Lao for the business sector, Mindanao State University Executive Director Linda Ola-Casan for the academe and Mary Ann Arnado of the Mindanao People's Caucus.

But at Pryce Plaza Hotel here, only government, military and police officials showed up for the summit.

It was not known why those from the private sector failed to attend but sources said the invitations might not have reached them yet.

Lt. Gen. Victor Mayo, National Security Council (NSC) senior deputy director, said in his opening speech there was, indeed, "short notice" to participants.

But he said he was still thanking government, police and military officials "for coming on such short notice."

Despite the absence of representatives from the private sector, Mayo still referred to the summit as an effort to convene "representatives from various sectors in Mindanao ... to identify issues and concerns in fighting terrorism, draft action plans to strengthen local mechanisms for counterterrorism."

Not open to public

He said the summit was also aimed at "solicit(ing) consensus among the various stakeholders on the need to unite in the fight against terrorism."

When asked if other private individuals had been invited to the summit, the NSC secretariat said it was the office of the National Security Adviser which conducted the selection process three weeks ahead of the scheduled consultation.

Despite Mayo's reference to the summit as multisectoral, those in the secretariat insisted it was actually not open to the public.

"Why would the government deny us the right to be heard in these consultations?" Bayan Muna media officer Lito Campo said.

He said his group wanted President Macapagal-Arroyo, who is scheduled to attend the meeting today, to realize how leaving people in the dark about the implementation of the law had upset them.

Different welcome for GMA

Ms Arroyo will be greeted with protests when she attends the summit today, Campo said, expressing concern that the law would only lead to more human rights violations.

"Whatever [the government] does, it cannot deny the fact that it (the law) is vague and open to misinterpretation," he said.

The law stipulates the holding of public consultations in various places around the country before implementation.

Not only human rights advocates are wary of the law when it takes effect on July 15.

Even police are worried

Senior Supt. Robert Po, chief of PNP national directorate for investigation, said there were apprehensions among policemen about a provision that prescribes penalties for wrongful detention, including payment of P500,000 in damages a day to a person wrongfully detained.

But Po said that in general, the antiterror law would give the police more power to pursue suspected terrorists and criminals.

He said the lack of a legal instrument had prevented the police from pursuing known terrorists in the past.

As to apprehensions that the law would derail the peace talks between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), Undersecretary Nabil Tan of the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process said the Human Security Act covered the basic principles of criminal law.

"While we all still have to study it closely, we think it's a good law," he said.

Victim cops tell NBI their boss recruited them in scam

From page A1

invested another P95,000 for the two more accounts I got which I put under the name of my child and a friend," she said.

Greed, she said, drove her to invest in Francswiss.

"Before I decided to join, I observed others who were already members and I was so amazed because they had lots of money," she told reporters.

A pyramiding scheme involves paying abnormally high, short-term returns to investors out of the money raised from new investors, rather than from profits generated by any real business.

The new scam lures unsuspecting victims to the Internet using websites like http://www.francswiss.biz and http://deutchfrancs.com.

SEC names other groups

Prospective investors are asked to invest $1,000 in francswiss.biz and $10,000 in deutchfrancs.com that promise to double their money in 22 days.

"This group (Francswiss) promises interests bigger than those offered by banks," said Lasala. "This type of investment scheme usually collapses as fast as they are created while investors are left unable to recover their investments."

The Securities and Exchange Commission has identified other Internet-based pyramiding schemes—Swiss Cash, Universal Forex System, Global America and Private Forex Trade Inc.

These groups are not registered with the SEC and have no permit to solicit investments from the public, according to the commission.

Some of the complainants at the NBI refused to be named, saying they were embarrassed by what happened to them.

They said they were forced to borrow money from friends just so they could join Francswiss.

Celebrities, too?

Another complainant from Baguio City told the NBI that he had invested P332,500 for the seven accounts he got.

There had been talk that famous celebrities and politicians also fell prey to operators of Francswiss.

Reynaldo Esmeralda, deputy director for Regional Operations Service, said his group was still in the process of verifying the information.

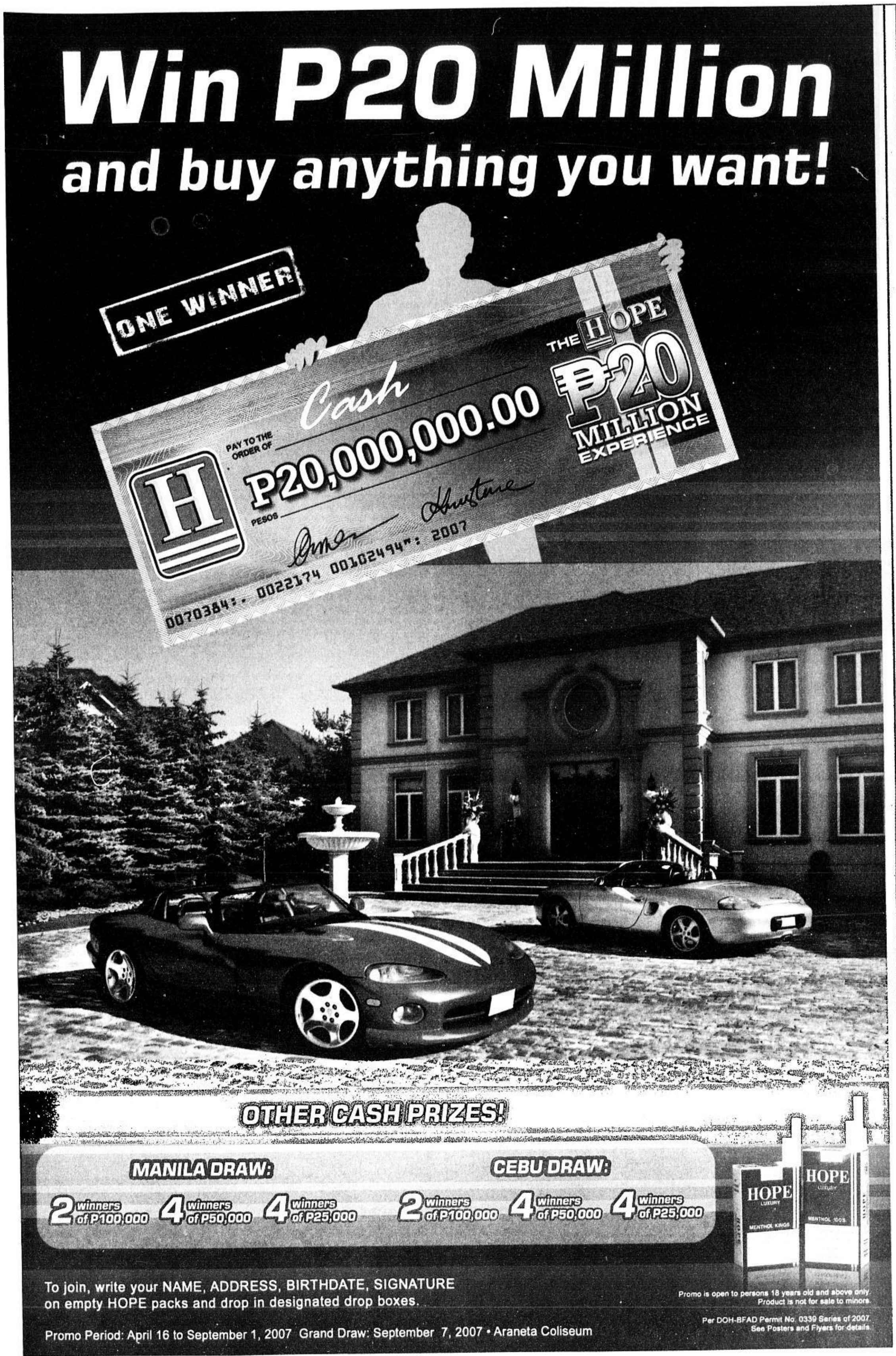
Arrested

He said it was possible that those behind Francswiss were using the names of prominent people to entice prospective investors into joining the investment scheme.

On Wednesday, the NBI arrested Eleazard Castillo, 26, a native of Cabuyao, Ilocos Sur, and allegedly the chief financial adviser of Francswiss Investment (FS Investment), in an entrapment operation in Baguio City.

Castillo, who by himself allegedly defrauded investors of about P200 million to P300 million, was charged with syndicated estafa at the Department of Justice.

"Francswiss" was believed to have gypped unsuspecting investors in the Philippines of P1 billion, the NBI said.



Government Warning:

Cigarette smoking is dangerous to your health.

Pressure rises on Bush to begin Iraq pullback

US PRESIDENT BUSH waves upon his arrival at the White House on Sunday after spending the weekend at the Camp David presidential retreat in Maryland. AFP

From page A1

White House officials were debating whether Bush should advance his announcement of the phased withdrawal of US troops from the high-casualty neighborhoods of Baghdad and elsewhere.

Citing unnamed administration officials, the newspaper said Bush and his aides once thought they could wait to begin those discussions until after Sept. 15.

That's the date when the top military commander and the US ambassador to Iraq are scheduled to present a progress report on the effectiveness of the troop increase that Bush announced in January.

But some top aides now believe forces are combining against Bush just as the Senate prepares to begin what promises to be a contentious debate on the defense authorization bill.

The news report coincided with a Times editorial that called for the immediate pullout of US troops, saying that Bush's plan to stabilize the Iraq through military means was a lost cause.

"It is time for the United States to leave Iraq, without any more delay than the Pentagon needs to organize an orderly exit," the influential daily wrote in a rare, single-issue editorial taking up one-half of an entire news page.

Support waning

About half a dozen Republican senators have recently announced they can no longer support Bush's Iraq strategy and demanded change.

As a result, some aides are reportedly now telling Bush that to forestall more defections, he needs to announce plans for a far more narrowly defined mission for US troops that would allow for a staged pullback.

Bush rejected this strategy last December when it was proposed by the bipartisan Iraq Study Group.

"When you count up the votes that we've lost and the votes we're likely to lose over the next few weeks, it looks pretty grim," the Times quoted one senior official as saying.

That conclusion was echoed in interviews over the past few days by administration officials in the Pentagon, Department of State and White House, as well as outsiders who have been consulted about what the administration should do next.

"Sept. 15 now looks like an end point for the debate, not a starting point," the unnamed senior official said. "Lots of people are concluding that the president has got to get out ahead of this train."

Growing concern

In a sign of growing concern in the Bush administration, Defense Secretary Robert Gates canceled his Latin American tour on Sunday to attend meetings on Iraq. Last week, National Security Adviser Stephen Hadley was also called in from a brief vacation to join discussions on Iraq.

Also included in the discussions were political strategist Karl Rove and Joshua Bolten, the White House chief of staff, according to the report.

Officials described Hadley as deeply concerned that the loss of Republicans could accelerate this week, a fear shared by Rove, the report said.

But the officials also said that Rove had warned that if Bush went too far in announcing a redeployment, the result could include a further cascade of defections—and the passage of legislation that would force a withdrawal by a specific date, the paper said.

Worried about McCain

"Everyone's particularly worried about what happens when McCain gets back from Iraq," one of the officials is quoted by The Times as saying.

Republican Sen. John McCain has been a stalwart supporter of the "surge" strategy, but is facing political troubles in the race for the Republican nomination for president.

McCain's poor performance in the polls attributed to his position on Iraq has fueled speculation that he may declare that the Iraqi government is incapable of reaching the kind of political accommodations that Washington considers necessary for overall success, the Times said.

With growing public discontent with the war, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi was set to introduce a bill to authorize troop redeployments to start within four months and to be completed by April 1, 2008, a formula Bush has already blocked once with a presidential veto.

Sources said veteran Sen. Robert Byrd and presidential candidate Hillary Clinton will frame an amendment to the defense authorization bill that would repeal Bush's authorization to wage war in Iraq in October—five years after it was granted.

Senators Carl Levin and Jack Reed are also expected to propose an amendment that would require a troop withdrawal to begin within 120 days of becoming law.

A YOUNG boy watches as US and Iraqi soldiers detain a man suspected of providing false documents for al-Qaida during a raid in Baqouba, 60 km northeast of Baghdad, on Monday. AP

Waiting for sign

The Times editorial said "many Americans [have been] waiting for a sign that President Bush was seriously trying to dig the United States out of the disaster he created by invading Iraq without sufficient cause, in the face of global opposition, and without a plan to stabilize the country afterward."

But it has since emerged, according to the Times, that Bush has "neither the vision nor the means to do that."

"It is frighteningly clear that Mr. Bush's plan is to stay the course as long as he is president and dump the mess on his successor. Whatever his cause was, it is lost," the editorial said.

"Continuing to sacrifice the lives and limbs of American soldiers is wrong. The war is sapping the strength of the nation's alliances and its military forces ... It is a betrayal of a world that needs the wise application of American power and principles."

The editorial concluded: "This country faces a choice. We can go on allowing Mr Bush to drag out this war without end or purpose. Or we can insist that American troops are withdrawn as quickly and safely as we can manage—with as much effort as possible to stop the chaos from spreading."

Notable event

The Guardian, a prominent British newspaper, hailed the Times' stance in an editorial in its Monday edition.

"The Times still remains the premier daily newspaper in American life. Its long editorial yesterday calling for US withdrawal from Iraq is therefore a notable event, both reflecting and shaping a US debate which is now coming to a political climax," the Guardian editorial said.

"Recent switches by some Republican senators have helped create a sense of momentum that is reflected in the Times editorial," it added.

"As the Times powerfully argues, withdrawal is no easy option ... We in Britain need to have that debate too—not to show how disastrous the Iraq war was, but to show how the world can begin to move beyond it." *Reports from AFP and New York Times News Service*

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
National Capital Region
DY Int'l Bldg., 1650 San Marcelino
cor. General Malvar St., Malate, Manila

NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATION/S FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT/S (AEP/S)

Notice is hereby given that the following companies/employers have filed with this Regional Office application/s for Alien Employment Permit/s:

Name and address of Company/Employer	Name of Foreign National	Position
MOON JU TEXTILE TRADING, INC. 20 F. Soriano St., Sto. Thomas, Pasig City	Moon Ju Kim	General Manager
NNA PHILS. CO., INC. 141 Valero St., Makati City	Akiko Saito	Marketing Manager
NNA PHILS. CO., INC. 141 Valero St., Makati City	Tamaki Akahane	Editor
BRUNEL TECHNICAL SERVICES MANPOWER CORP. 5046 BCC House,P. Burgos St., Poblacion, Makati City	Prasanna Hari Gore	Consultant
LIBANDING KOREA INC. Unit 1-A T-Tower Condo., 5040 P. Burgos St., Poblacion, Makati City	Hye Ryoo	Korean Language Interpreter
MYUNG-DONG KALGUKSOO NOODLE HOUSE 6244 Caylo St., Poblacion, Makati City	Kung Hun Shin	Financial Consultant
SOUTH SEA LANGUAGE. CENTER CORP. Amrit Tower, 4980 P. Guanzon St., Poblacion, Makati City	Hong Ki Youn	Operations Manager
PAN-ASIA INVESTMENTS GROUP HOLDING CO., INC. 2505 Unionbank Plaza, Meralco Ave., cor. Onyx Rd., Ortigas Center, Pasig City	Hao Li	Engineer Consultant
HANEUL TRADING INC. 31 Westgate Tower, Investment Drive, Alabang, Muntinlupa City	Bong Chun Woo	General Manager
RC&O COMPREHENSIVE AGENCIES, INC. Rm. 316 Gateway Centre, Paseo de Magallanes, Magallanes Village, Makati City	Kyung Joon Park	Consultant
PAROLA MARITIME AGENCY CORP. 1582 Copernico St., Brgy. San Isidro, Makati City	Syed Abdul Rahman Bin Syed Daud	Owner's Representative
SIMYREN THRIFT SHOP 618 Evangelista St., Quiapo, Manila	Jaeyeon Yun	Foreign Consultant
CHINA AIRLINES, LTD. 1322 Unit-1, Golden Empire Tower, Roxas Blvd., cor. Padre Faura St., Ermita, Manila	Chu-Chun Liu	Maintenance Representative
JABEZ INT'L. EDUCATIONAL CENTER INC. G/F Polaris Center, 48 Polaris St., Bel-Air, Makati City	Sung Yeob Lee	Franchise Manager
PHILIPPINE-JAPAN CULTURAL INFORMATION AND EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE FOUNDATION, INC. Unit 1500 Palm Tower, St. Paul St., San Antonio Village, Makati City	Hiroto Inoue	Japanese Website Specialist
DUZON E&H IN PHILIPPINES CORPORATION Level 10-12, Tower 2, Insular Life Corporate Centre, Filinvest, Alabang, Muntinlupa City	Cook Ryearn Kim	Class Manager
ASIA PACIFIC ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICE INC. 10/F APC Bldg., Magallanes Village, Makati City	Jangwook Lee	Student Coordinator
ISLAND BEACH TRAVEL INC. 2/F DAMON Bldg., D. Macapagal Ave., Pasay City	Won Joon Ki	Operations Manager
NEW TIME SAVER CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION 1240 E. delos Santos Ave., Quezon City	Zonghe Li	Consultant
CONCEPCION-CARRIER AIR CONDITIONING COMPANY Km. 20 East Service Rd., South Superhighway, Alabang, Muntinlupa City	Rajan S/O Komarasu	Director-Finance
AJINOMOTO PHILIPPINES CORPORATION 331 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City	Daisaku Wadami	Department Manager-Sales

If you have any information/objection to the abovementioned application/s please communicate with the Regional Director.

The DOLE conducts free seminar on Labor-Human Relations and Productivity. For more information, please call 338-2013 & 303-8920.

ISABEL P. ORTIGUERRA
Regional Director

(PDI July 10 2007)

AUCTION

www.goindustry.com

LIVE AUCTION SALE

ON: THURSDAY 12TH JULY 2007 - 10:30AM SHARP

At.: LIETZ Industrial Complex, Edison Ave. (P. Leviste), Km. 14, SLEX, Parañaque City

TEST EQUIPMENT: KENWOOD / PANASONIC Oscilloscopes; Ultrasonic Generators; MIYACHI Welding Power Supplies; MIYACHI Weld Checkers; Deflection Supplies; Gas Insulation Tester; etc.

GENERATOR / AIRCONDITIONING UNITS: CUMMINS 50kva Generator; ALENAIRE 1tr Ceiling Suspended Airconditioning Units; FEDDERS 2hp / DAIKIN 1.5hp Window Type Airconditioning Units; ALENAIRE 1.5tr Unused Aircon Compressors; ALENAIRE Evaporators; etc.

POWER / HAND TOOLS: GMC Air Compressors; Compound Mitre Saws; Slide Compound Mitre Saws; Hammer Drills, Angle Grinders; Sheet Orbital Sanders; Cordless Drills / Drivers; Heat Guns; Asstd OZITO Power Tools; etc.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS: Korean Narra Sofa Set; Single-Seater Sofa's; Narra Dining Table W/ Chairs; Stainless Preparation Tables, AMANA 2-Door Refrigerators; GORENJE F112 Std Freezers; Glass Shelvings; Glass Cabinets; etc.

OFFICE FURNITURES & EQUIPMENT: Wooden Conference Table; Wooden Office Tables; Office Swivel Chairs; Clerical Chairs; Diplomat Safety Vault; Filing Cabinets; OLYMPIA Typewriters; Printers; etc.

MISCELLANEOUS: INGERSOLLRAND Balancer; Compressor Heads; EDWARDS Two Stage Vacuum Pumps; Induction Motors; Planetary Mixer Head; Fluorescent Lighting Fixtures; HIRATA Conveyor Chains; Heavy Duty Steel Racks; Plastic Bins; Machine Spares; CPU's; Monitors; etc.

On View: Wednesday 11th JULY 2007 - 9am to 5pm & morning of sale day
Refundable Deposit: Php5,000 (upon registration)

GoIndustry Henry Butcher
INDUSTRIAL ASSET DISPOSAL AND VALUATION
Contact JENNY, JESSA or DANG
Tel: 822-5555 Fax: 822-3333
Email: manila@goindustry.com
www.goindustry.com

AUCTION

www.henrybutcher.com

Sale By Live Auction

Generator Sets; Heavy Equipment/Vehicle; Industrial Equipment; Miscellaneous

Sale Date: Thursday, 19 July 2007 at 10:30am
At: #88 Rimas Road, Malabon City

GENERATOR SETS: 65 KVA Diesel Generator; ISUZU 75 KVA Diesel Engine Generator Set; HOKUETSU INDUSTRIES 15 KVA Generator; MARUZEN 10 KVA Diesel Generator; ISUZU Diesel Generator; etc.

HEAVY EQUIPMENT/VEHICLE: Canter Truck; TCM 2 T. Forklifts; Stainless 16 Passenger Cap. Jeepney; etc.

INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT: ESARY TRON WORK Press; KONOR Press; 3000 PSI Hydraulic Press; SMITH-DRUM Lathe; MAXIMAT Lathe; FUKUMO Planer; Lubricating Machine; Milling Machine; PEM Jupee 400 Cutting Machine; HITACHI TS-ARC Welding Machine; Asstd Welding Machines; FUJI 3000 PSI Air Compressor; HITACHI Air Compressor; FUKURA Air Compressor; TOSHIBA Air Compressor; Assorted Japan Brand Compressors; etc.

MISCELLANEOUS: POWER COM Transformer; ALLIS CHALMER Induction Motor; TECO Induction Motor; Asstd Sizes Japan Brand Gear Motors; Elephant Heavy Duty Chain Hoists; TOSHIBA Water Pump Motor; Jet-O-Matic Steam Washer; ZANDER INGESTROM Steam Washer; BESLA Blower; Large Quantity Heating Elements; Asstd KUBOTA Engines; Powell Valves, Malleable Valves; Asstd Gate Valves; Heavy Duty Pulley; Pallet Jacks; Asstd Water Filters; Asstd Electrical Cables; Asstd Electrical Spare Parts; Asstd Metal Tubing/Piping; Asstd Integrated Circuits; Assorted Rollers; Steel I-beams; Large Quantity Steel Scraps: etc.

On View: Wednesday, 18 July 2007 from 9am to 5pm & morning of sale day
Refundable Deposit: Php5,000 (upon registration)

GoIndustry Henry Butcher
INDUSTRIAL ASSET DISPOSAL AND VALUATION
Contact: JENNY, JESSA or DANG
Tel: 822 5555 Fax: 822-3333
Email: manila@goindustry.com

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas
Maynila, Pilipinas
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites suppliers/distributors to apply for eligibility and to bid for the hereunder project:

Name of Project/Brief Description	**Supply and delivery of one thousand fifty (1,050) pieces of Rackable Plastic Pallets per attached BSP Scope of Work, Specifications and Drawings**
Approved Budget for the Contract	**P5,300,000.00**
Delivery Period	**Within ninety (90) calendar days upon receipt of the approved contract**

Prospective bidders should have undertaken a similar project awarded and completed within the last five (5) years (Y2002 to present) amounting to at least 50% of the approved budget for the contract. The Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria. Post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference(s), Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).

The complete schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

Activities	*Schedule*
1. Issuance of Bid Documents	Starting 11 July 2007
2. Pre-Bid Conference	23 July 2007; 10:30 a.m.
3. Opening of Bids	07 August 2007; 2:00 p.m.
4. Bid Evaluation	These shall be in accordance with the prescribed periods allowed in the Implementing Rules & Regulations (IRR)-A of R.A. No 9184 dated 10 January 2003
5. Post-qualification	
6. Notice of Award	

Bid Documents will be available only to prospective bidders upon payment of a non-refundable amount of **P2,650.00** to the BSP Cashier.

The BSP assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.

The BSP reserves the right to reject any and all bid proposals, or declare the bidding a failure, or not award the contract, and makes no assurance that a contract shall be entered into as a result of this invitation

(Sgd.) JUAN DE ZUÑIGA, JR.
Chairman

(PDI July 10, 2007)

ZAMBOANGA CITY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
(ZAMCELCO)
Zamboanga City

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION AND TO BID

The Zamboanga City Electric Cooperative, Inc. (ZAMCELCO) at Putik, this city, per Board Policy on Pre-qualification, and Bids and Awards, invites all interested bidders/suppliers to apply for pre-qualification/eligibility and to bid for the following items to wit:

1) **81 units CURRENT TRANSFORMER** 15KV, Multi Ratio CTR 10-15-20/5, Made in Germany, with Sealing Provision for Outdoor used type GIFK-24-105. Approved Budget Cost – P49,000.00/unit
2) **81 units POTENTIAL TRANSFORMER** 15KV, PTR 8,400/120 Made in Germany, with sealing provision, Single Bushing for outdoor used type VEF 24-03. Approved Budget Cost – P48,000.00
3) **6 units Current Transformer (CT) Primary**, Multi ratio @400-300-200/5 amps.; Made in Germany, for outdoor used type, GIFK24-105 Approved Budget Cost – P49,000.00/unit
4) **6 units Potential Transformer (PT) Primary** BIL 95KV, Rated Voltage 15KV, PTR 8400/120; Made in Germany, Double Bushing for outdoor used type VZF24-03. Approved Budget Cost – P48,000.00/unit

(Note: Financing Scheme of not less than 12 months or one year)

You may secure the Pre-qualification Requirements from the office of the Finance Department at ZAMCELCO Complex in Putik, this city anytime during office hours and submit the same upon completion of all requirements thereof.

Submission of the Pre-qualification Requirements shall not be later than **5:00 PM of July 12, 2007** and no documents appertaining thereto, shall be accepted thereafter

All applicants will be duly notified of the results of the pre-qualification/eligibility process. Only those who are qualified will be allowed to participate in the bidding, upon payment of **non-refundable bidding fee of P5,000.00.**

Bidding will be conducted on July 19, 2007.

Sealed bid in duplicate copies should be submitted to the Committee on Bids and Awards at the Office of the Finance Department at the above-mentioned address on or before **2:00 PM of July 19, 2007. Five (5%) percent Bidder's Bond** (in the form of cash, cashier's/manager's/certified check, surety bond or bank guarantee/LC) is required as a matter of coop policy

The right to reject any or all bids, to waive any formality thereof, or to accept such bid as may be considered advantageous to the coop, is hereby, reserved as an absolute prerogative of ZAMCELCO.

(Sgd.) REINERIO R. RAMOS
General Manager

(PDI–July 10 & 11, 2007)

Human error eyed in midair crash

By Tarra Quismundo

AIR TRANSPORTation Office (ATO) officials said yesterday they saw "signs of human error" but were still baffled over what might have caused the midair collision of two light planes that killed two student pilots and an instructor over Bulacan on Sunday.

"We don't know yet how it happened," ATO Accident Investigation Board head Capt. Jose Saplan said.

ATO officials said they were looking into the actions of the pilot-trainees, the instructor, the ground supervisors of the training flights and the air traffic controller who cleared the two aircraft for landing.

"There are signs of human error. But we have to look at all the angles to weigh everything because there might be contributory factors," said ATO chief Nilo Jatico.

The two Cessna planes on training flights were on landing approach at Plaridel airport around 1 p.m. when they collided, crashing onto the ricefields in Barangay Ligas.

Based on initial information, Saplan said the two planes were "coming from different directions" as they approached the Plaridel airstrip. Both were at an altitude of between 400 and 500 feet when the mishap occurred, he said.

"They were coming from different directions but both were already in the traffic pattern. We will find out why there was no spacing [between the two aircraft] as they approached," Saplan said.

The ideal distance between two aircraft landing one after the other is at least 500 meters, Saplan said. The AIB chief said it was obvious the two planes were too close to each other as they maneuvered to land.

Speaking from experience, Jatico said the pilots may have encountered "blind spots."

"I suspect that as one of them entered the flight pattern, the pilot encountered what we call a blind spot condition, a point or angle of entry where one cannot see an incoming plane. The other aircraft may have been in the process of banking, so the first pilot might not have seen it," said Jatico, adding that such incidents happened a lot.

Koreans welcome but not as traders

SOUTH KOREANS are very welcome in the country as tourists but not as retailers, the Bureau of Immigration said yesterday as it ordered a crackdown on foreigners illegally doing business in the country.

Immigration Commissioner Marcelino Libanan said foreigners, most of them Korean, had been "blatantly" violating the country's immigration laws by operating retail stores and using Filipinos to front for them.

Only Filipino citizens may ply the retail trade, Libanan said in a statement.

"A foreigner who engages in the retail trade is liable for deportation as the act is a violation of the conditions of his admission and stay in the country," he said.

Licenses, permits

Libanan also appealed to local government officials throughout the country not to issue licenses and permits to foreign-owned retail businesses in their areas.

The bureau will coordinate with the Department of Trade and Industry in going after the illegal foreign traders, Libanan said.

The BI's campaign against alien retailers is expected to be initially tested in Baguio City as the local government there announced it had formed a task force with BI and DTI officials to go after Korean-owned establishments in the city.

Similar Korean-owned establishments have been reported in Manila, Pasay and Makati cities, Libanan said.

Koreans are among the top three tourist groups that come to the country.

RA 8762

Republic Act No. 8762, or the Retail Trade Liberalization Act of 2000, opened the retail trade to foreigners. The law introduced three categories where a foreigner may partly or wholly own a retail business worth between $2.5 million and $7.5 million.

The restrictions of the law, however, do not apply to businesses with a capital of P100,000 or less, restaurants that are operated by hotel owners or innkeepers irrespective of the amount of capital, as well as the sale of farm products and other goods produced, manufactured, processed or assembled in a single outlet. *Jerome Aning*

Most Complete Line of Cleaning Equipment
WH 2112 w/ Automatic Stop System
WH 3517E
KYORITZ Brushcutter
GREASE PUMP Air Operated
ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT for CARWASH BUSINESS
Now Only P39,500
Commando 4003 1900 PSI/2.5 HP With Complete Accessories High Pressure Washer For Personal Use
Guaranteed The Lowest Price In The Market
INDUSTRIAL HIGH PRESSURE WASHER UP TO 7000 PSI AVAILABLE
Major Credit Cards Accepted. Deferred Payments Up To 24 Mos.
Exclusively Distributed by CLEANCITY COMMERCIAL INCORPORATED
MAIN: 1851 M. OROSA ST., MALATE, MLA.
Tel. Nos.: 5245290 • 5244328 • 5240529
Sun Cellular: 0922-8825326 • 0917-7896670
646 QUEZON AVE. Tel. 7490581 • 7493709

United Tree LENDING CORP
2% CAR/TRUCK LOAN
YR. MODEL 1992-2007
PAYOFF PAST DUE W/BANK
1 HOUR RELEASE
656-0140/4112547-48/531-5577
PASIG QUEZON CITY MANDALUYONG

People's Choice
SUPERBRAND HALL OF FAME
voted by readers
SUPER BRAND Reader's Digest Philippines
GOLD 2006
GOLD 2005
PLATINUM 2004
GOLD 2003
GOLD 2002
GOLD 2001
GOLD 2000
GOLD 1999

Reader's Digest TRUSTED BRAND 2007 Voted by consumers
PLATINUM

idec AIRCONDITION
The New Split Type Aircon
Wall-Mounted
1hp-P16,500
1.5hp-P18,500, 2hp-P25,000
2.5hp-P30,000, 4hp-P43,000
Floor Mounted
3hp-P39,500 5hp-P55,000
Ceiling Mounted 3hp-P39,500
4hp-P52,000 6hp-P65,000
Ceiling Cassette 3hp-P50,000
Also Available Window Type Aircon
Free Installation!
Call: 243-2610, 241-4731, (0919) 2482183
Available at: MC Home Depot / Fort & Ortigas
Cebu: (032) 3465498 Davao: (082) 2358821 www.idec-aircon.com

generics wholesale 6-22-07

Amoxicillin Cap 500 mg -100's	165.00
Ascorbic Acid Tab 500 mg -100's	64.00
Carbocisteine Cap 500 mg -100's	82.00
Glibenclamide Tab 5 mg - 100's	49.00
Mefenamic Acid 500 mg - 100's	64.00
Metformin Tab 500 mg - 100's	70.00
Multi-Vitamin Cap -100's	102.00
Multivitamin Syrup 60 ml	14.20
Nifedipine cap 10 mg - 80's	220.00
Paracetamol Tab 500 mg -100's	26.00
Salbutamol Tab 2 mg -100's	19.00
Silymarine Cap (Liveraide) -50's	589.00
Vitamin B-Complex Tab -100's	58.00

www.CNN-generics.com
Above prices applicable for Drugstores, Hospitals, Distributors, Companies, Organizations, etc.
CNN GENERICS DISTRIBUTION, INC. MOBILE (0920) 402-9905 2nd Flr. 459 Quezon Ave. Q.C. FAX 740-6417
OVER 400 products
CASH, NO MINIMUM ORDER. MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

FORTH Digital Systems www.forth.com.ph
ISO 9002 CERT.No. Q10049
" No PABX System is too BIG or too Small for us"
Home & Small Office Mini PABX • Professional Digital PABX • Proximity Door Access System • Authorized Attendant (DISA Box) • GSM Line Mobile Converter
- we can upgrade your obsolete PABX with our Digital Auto Attendant & GSM Line Module.
- we have "lease to own" plans for your upgrades & new requirements.
- we have 17 years experience of installation and services.
- systems for Home & Small Office starts at P12,000.00 only (3x8 System)
- we do in-house cabling & installation for PABX, PC LAN and CCTV.

Exclusive Distributor:
SOGO International Inc
538 Hen. Lacuna cor. Zamora Sts., Bangkal, Makati City
Tel. Nos.: (632) 889-0873 to 75 • E-mail: sales@sogo.com.ph
Website: www.sogo.com.ph

PILOT
Experience the Ultimate writing instrument
V5 & V7 Hi-Tecpoint

BX-V5
BX-V7
Unique stainless steel pen tip with a micro ball in the tip made writing Ultimate Smooth
Philippine Exclusive Distributor
COSMOS BAZAR, INC.
571 Q. Paredes St., Binondo, Manila
P.O. BOX 1601 els.: 243-6912 to 14 Fax: 2425671
PILOT CORPORATION
Tokyo, Japan

Go & Work in Canada !
And Discover a Better Future for You and Your Family!
FASS INTELI COLLEGE
The ONLY caregiver school in the Philippines in partnership with Ashton College of Vancouver, Canada
Now offers CAREGIVER NC 2 + (Meeting Canadian Qualification)
A specially designed 6-month care giving course offered only at FASS-INTELI COLLEGE that lets you graduate as a CERTIFIED CARE GIVER in Canada.
ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS :
·21 to 45 years of age
·Entrance Examination of Ashton College
·Seventy two (72) units in college or university
·Transcript of Records / Diploma
·Training and Work Experience Certificates (if any)
PLACEMENT AND VISA ASSISTANCE TO QUALIFIED GRADUATES AVAILABLE!
ENROLL NOW!!! Classes start July 16
Weekend Classes are OPEN
TESDA PCTIA Ashton College VANCOUVER, CANADA
Website: www.fass-inteli.com E-mail : info@fass-inteli.com
Tel. nos. 911-8050 / 439-7878
Telefax 912-5325 Address: No. 11 Pittsburgh St. Cubao, Q.C.

PROtech
CERTIFICATION INTERNATIONAL ISO 9001: 2000
APOLLO SERIES
World Class Burglar Resisting Safe
DON'T CHANCE IT. PROTECH IT.
PROTECTION TECHNOLOGY, INC.
Physical Security Equipment
www.protech.com.ph
HEAD OFFICE: 2643-U Taft Ave., Pasay City, MM Tel. Nos.: 833-3622 * 833-1246 831-0648 * 551-4809 * 551-7869 Fax No.: (632) 831-2961 E-mail: protech@philonline.com
CEBU OFFICE: Escano St. cor Don Mariano Cui St., Capitol Site, Cebu City Tel. No.: (032) 255-6384 Telefax: (032) 254-6301 E-mail: protechc@mozcom.com
DAVAO OFFICE: Unit-C Atty. Fanlo Compound Padre Gomez St., Davao City Tel. No.: (082) 221-5021 E-mail: protechd@mozcom.com

The powerful, cost efficient air cooler for big businesses
JUMBO
The Symphony Jumbo evaporative air cooler.
Make your business cooler.
PERFECT for:
Restaurants Outdoors Conference Halls Showrooms
With an air throw of 37 feet, the Jumbo can cool an area about 75 square meters. It also has a large water chamber and low wattage consumption that makes Jumbo the best cost-effective business solutions to cool outdoor areas like patios and gardens for your al fresco parties and events.
Or increase cooling of large areas like supermarkets, convention halls, retail shops and restaurants.
FEATURES:
- Air throw 11 meters (37 ft.)
- Vertical Air Swing Louver
- Largest Pad Area
- Dust Filter Net
- 51 Liter Tank Capacity
- Powerful 3-speed motor
- 18 inch fan diameter
- 210 watts
- Front water inlet door
- Optional Float Valve
- 26"(lenght) x 25"(breadth) x 30"(height w/o trolley)/45" (height w/ trolley)
- 17 kg
ISO 9001 CE GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS
1 Year Warranty on parts and service
Exclusively distributed by Astech Pengson
Manila: (02) 634-8351 to 59 Cebu: (032) 344-1185 Davao: (082) 221-0585
Symphony AIR COOLER

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
Center for Health Development 4-A
BATANGAS REGIONAL HOSPITAL
(Teaching and Training)
Batangas City

Project Reference Number 07-01
Batangas Regional Hospital
Kumintang Ibaba, Batangas City

July 4, 2007

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Batangas Regional Hospital through its Hospital Bids and Awards Committee (HBAC), invites suppliers to apply for Eligibility and to bid for Hospital Equipment details as follows:

Approved Budget Estimate	P2,000,000.00
Pre-Bid Conference	July 16, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.
Issuance of Bid Documents	July 13, 2007 - July 18, 2007
Opening of Bids	July 24, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.

Prospective bidders should have experience in undertaking a similar project within the last two (2) years with an amount of at least 50% of the proposed project for bidding. The Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids will use non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria. Post-qualification on the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

Bid documents will be available at the Supply Office only to prospective bidders upon payment of a non-refundable amount of One Thousand Pesos Only (P1,000.00) to the Hospital Collection Department.

The Batangas Regional Hospital assures no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expense occurred in the preparation of the bid.

Approved by:
(Sgd.) ALFRED ALLEN E. BUENAFE, MD., FPCS, FSGS
HBAC Chairman

(PDI – July 8 & 10, 2007)

ISSN 0116-2642 INQUIRER Vol. 22 No. 212

Email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph Website: www.inquirer.net/opinion

OPINION

Text us your feedback: inquirer opi name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
•Chino Roces Ave corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
•P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
•Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
•Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 •Advertising 897-4807
•Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.
•Subscription Hotline 896-6000

•100% soy ink•

Small acts

EDITORIALS

FROM ALL INDICATIONS, LIVE EARTH, A 24-HOUR music marathon spanning seven continents, was a success in raising international awareness of the dangers of global warming. But the question being asked is, "After this, what?'

Even before the start of the music marathon, critics were faulting Live Earth for lacking clearcut, achievable goals. Some people would now begin thinking of large-scale projects that would entail heroic efforts from people and organizations.

But to curb global warming and start a massive effort to save the environment, we do not have to resort to unusual, heroic means. We can start small and begin with the things we are familiar with at home and at work. For instance, we can change our light bulbs to those that use less electricity than the conventional incandescent bulbs. Households using washing machines can use clotheslines instead of dryers to dry their clothes.

People who now drive to work could take the bus or the LRT or MRT. Some corporation or agency could start a program to use the recently introduced e-jeepneys in the metropolis. Some architects and engineers could conduct studies to make use of natural ventilation so that buildings would not need airconditioning. Shoppers could stop using plastic bags at the supermarket or department store and instead use *bayong* or bags made of recycled paper.

We could shut off computers when not in use and kill the lights at quitting time. We could replace Styrofoam and plastic containers with biodegradable ones.

There are many, many other small things that people can do that could save the Earth from the perils of global warming. Recycle and reuse. Live simply and consume less. Small acts and small things can add up to a significant whole and may yet save our imperiled Earth.

Big name

THE PAST TWO WEEKS THE INTERNATIONAL MEDIA were full of news about Paris Hilton. The latest story was about a US newscaster who refused to lead her program with a story about Hilton and tore her script to pieces on the air.

Stories about celebrities who do crazy, unconventional and useless things can really infuriate the man in the street. The irony of the story about the newscaster is that she reacted after a chastened Hilton, recently released from jail where she was detained for reckless driving, said she was going to change her ways and raise awareness for great causes.

The movies, born in the late 19th century, contributed a lot to the invention of the modern "personality" and the birth of the "celebrity."

Celebrities are not heroes, although because of some other great achievements in life, they may later attain the status of heroes. Historian Daniel Boorstin, in his book "The Image," said that "the hero was distinguished by his achievement; the celebrity by his image or trademark. The hero created himself; the celebrity is created by the media. The hero was a big man; the celebrity is a big name."

In the past, celebrities provided grist for the entertainment and general news mill by simply appearing in public and doing things which could be good or bad or neutral. But lately, some celebrities like Hilton, Lindsay Lohan and Britney Spears have drawn a lot of media coverage because of some unconventional, and sometimes, illegal things they've done.

Jacqueline Rose, a professor at the University of London, suggested that celebrities attract a lot of public attention because people "project" themselves into them. She asked: "Could it be, then, that celebrity does indeed represent our guilty secret, that it's a veiled way of putting into public circulation certain things which do not easily admit of public acknowledgment?"

But celebrity can be put to good use, as some show-biz personalities have shown. There's Angelina Jolie whose work fighting poverty, hunger and disease in various parts of the world has been acknowledged by the United Nations which made her a goodwill ambassador. There's Sharon Stone who received Harvard Foundation's 2005 Humanitarian Award for her support for AIDS research. There's Bono who has been fighting for debt relief for the poorest countries of the world. These are just three of many who have shown that celebrity can be used to do good things for people who are most in need of help.

Publisher ISAGANI YAMBOT
Editor in Chief LETTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANOC
Managing Editor JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO
Associate Editor ABELARDO S. ULANDAY
Associate Editor for Readership ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO
News Editor ARTEMIO T. ENGRACIA JR. • *Chief, News Day Desk* NILO B. PAUROM
Opinion Editor JORGE V. ARUTA
National Editor PERGENTINO B. BANDAYREL JR.
Senior Desk Editor JUAN V. SARMIENTO JR.
Editorial Consultant AMANDO DORONILA
Chief Photographer ERNIE U. SARMIENTO
Art & Design Director LYNETT A. VILLARIBA

Board Chairman MARIXI R. PRIETO
President ALEXANDRA PRIETO-ROMUALDEZ
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing RENATO R. REINOSO
VP for Advertising FELIPE R. OLARTE
AVP for Circulation SANDY SIMON R. YAP

Readers' Advocate LORNA KALAW TIROL
readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph • Tel. No. 897-8808, Loc. 342

All rights reserved. Except as permitted by law, no part of the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means stored in a database or retrieval system without its prior written permission.

'Brittle glory'

VIEWPOINT

Juan L. Mercado

CONTRASTS MARKED THIS "HAPPENstance." Will a forthcoming court decision nail former President Joseph Estrada for plunder? headlines asked. This happened after a US court stiffed White House executive Lewis Libby with a 30-month prison term for perjury and obstruction of justice.

Libby coughed up a $250,000 fine. But Sen. Jinggoy Estrada fumed, "We will not seek clemency from this administration." Libby zippered his lips on reports of a pardon. In contrast, Sen. Alan Peter Cayetano usurped Sandiganbayan functions by issuing his "decision": the prosecution failed to prove Erap's guilt.

Clemency questions will raise hackles in Manila and Washington in the days ahead. They'll blur the human tragedy. Gifted with a rare opportunity to serve, these two men squandered it. Don't we all?

"Four things never return," says the English proverb, "the sped arrow, wasted time, the spoken word and missed opportunity."

In his early Malacañang days, Erap's conversation piece was a unique watch. It counted down from the 2,191 days that voters gifted him. Euphoria then blacked out intimations of mortality. "This could have been a one-sentence story," movie actor Mickey Rooney said of his ruined career. "Once upon a time, I lived happily ever after."

Time stopped for Erap barely two years after he pledged, in his "Now, Power Is With The People" inaugural speech: *Walang kamaganak. Walang kaibigan. Walang kumpare.* Ouster, arrest, detention and protracted trial followed. Euphoria turned into "brittle glory." Why?

"Power now is with the concubines," the Sun-Star said of the "5-K governance—*kamaganak, kaibigan, kaklase, kumpare at kabit*—that surged. Worried Estrada aides were meeting covertly with a presidential mistress over the tailspin, the International Herald Tribune reported.

Was she Kabit "No. 3" or Concubine "No. 5"? IHT staffer Thomas Fuller did not say. But he reported that the conferees, among them, Spokesman Jerry Barican, PNP chief Panfilo Lacson, Executive Secretary Ronaldo Zamora, Trade Secretary Jose Pardo, Presidential Assistant Leonora de Jesus, considered her a "capable and politically astute conduit." They passed on a message for Erap in boudoir privacy.

It was blunt: *Jueteng* loot, late-night boozing, lavish mansions for mistresses, graft, etc. were greasing a slide into self-destruction. Impeachment could not be ruled out.

The message "delivered that night was prescient," Fuller wrote in his report titled, "Colleagues of Philippine President Depict A Leader Disdainful of Daily Tasks and Hampered by Life Style." But it fell between the cracks. Erap was impeached, tried and, as some supporters insist, may be convicted.

"The story ... is about an administration that, from its first days in office, was hampered by the quirks of a president who bumped from one scandal to the next," the Tribune noted. "[His] critical shortcoming is his inability to reconcile presidential obligations with personal excesses: his late night drinking sessions and his gambling."

In "Nocturnal President," Ellen Tordesillas added that midnight Cabinet members were called "New Yorkers." Why? "Because they operated on (Eastern standard time), making 12 noon in New York midnight in Manila."

"Marcos tested the limits of political oppression and our capacity to endure it," Institute of Asian Church and Culture's Melba Padilla Maggay then wrote. "And Estrada tests limits of moral corruption and our capacity to get roused to indignation... But the economic fallout from the moral rot illustrates the time-honored truth: that no society can survive without a minimum of moral sense."

Indeed, "private indiscretion and immorality of leaders have tragic national results," added Evelyn Miranda Feliciano. Asians, therefore, insist that leaders possess "sageliness within and kingliness without" (i.e., character and competence).

Many voted for Estrada as sage and king who'd reach out to those who drew life's short straws. At Luneta, he assured the *mahirap:* "One of your own has made it." In the event, an imperial carouser made it.

And the court decision will show whether the old Chinese proverb holds true. "To be a bad emperor for one life means seven rebirths as a beggar."

But what if Erap kept those pledges of selfless governance?

Then Sen. Teofisto Guingona wouldn't have cloned Emile Zola's 1898 "I Accuse" article for a privilege speech that triggered Erap's impeachment and he would have served out his term. Wearing a wristband, with a presidential seal, wouldn't be a "brittle glory" ritual that echoes the cry of Richard II: "Call back yesterday. Bid time return."

What if he vetted the company he kept?

In his book, "The Erap Tragedy," his former chief of staff Aprodicio Laquian lists "*barkadas*" who cost Erap dearly: Atong Ang, Jaime Dichaves, Dante Tan, Lucio Lao Co, William Gatchalian, Jacinto Ng, Willy Ocier, Jose Luis "Sel" Yulo, even Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson, who proved to be a relentless nemesis after a botched rubout attempt. Fingerprinting and detainee mug shots would not have traumatized him.

What if he didn't sign bank papers as "Jose Velarde"? There'd have been no "Craven Eleven" senators who lit the fuse for People Power 2 by sealing the "second envelope." He'd have seen no need to adapt the dying Cardinal Wolsey's regret: "Had I served my [country] with half the zeal / I served my [barkadas], God would not, in my old age / Have left me naked to mine enemies."

And what if the Sandiganbayan decides that... Shove it. *Abangan.*

* * *

E-mail: juanlmercado@gmail.com

Bugs

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

A FRIEND OF MINE CALLED ME UP SOME days ago to ask if I had the sensation of being followed. I said no, though I probably wouldn't notice anyway if I was. Though I make it a point to be aware of my surroundings, as Liam Neeson bid Christian Bale do in "Batman Begins," I doubt if I'd be able to spot a tail if it was tied to my back. I tend to be lost in thought on the occasions that I am walking or driving, muttering to myself, a habit that has the not entirely unwelcome effect of making people give me a wide berth. When driving, I often end up in places I shouldn't be.

My friend said he did. For some nights now, a car or two would idle in front of his house, then go. He noticed they were the same cars, though he couldn't make out their plate numbers. He also had the feeling of being followed to his place of work and watched.

Paranoia? Maybe. But my friend is not into drugs, even if one glass of wine too many has been known to produce drug-like effects on him. Yes, he can afford it, he does consultancy work for various government offices and makes a pile. His *kapraningan* comes from the fact that he was a political activist during Marcos' time and was jailed for his pains. Though he has long ceased to be a political activist in deed, if not in thought and word, he figures Norberto Gonzales is not one to note the difference. He figures the disappearance of Jonas Burgos is a prelude to a wholesale crackdown on all political activists, past and present, active and passive, armed and unarmed. Crackdown is the other word for murder.

Well, the way things are, I can't say I blame him. The impunity with which Burgos was made to disappear and the intractability with which government officials, civilian and military, are greeting his kin's efforts to find him, or find justice for him, can't possibly dissuade the wholesale murder of crows, or journalists and activists. The antiterrorism law, which is poised to take effect any time, now guarantees it. It wraps an obscenity in the robes of legality, like a rotting corpse in finery.

Raul Gonzalez says the government will neither use it recklessly nor fecklessly. It will use it with just the right amount of force and judiciousness. Of course, he says, the law, couched in government Newspeak as the "Human Security Act," will bug people. He means that, of course, in the surveillance sense of the word, even if its victims are bound to appreciate only its sense of pissing them off. But *sori na lang*, that's the price to pay for freedom. The HSA, he says, will respect the media's right to privileged information and communication, but only up to a point. That point is breached when journalists become "contaminated." "For example, when there is suspicion against you. You are now part of a group that is planning to terrorize, to do harm to the state."

At the very least what's so warped about all this is, well: Juan Ponce Enrile, Norberto Gonzales, Raul Gonzalez and Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. Enrile sponsored the bill in the Senate, Gonzales will carry it out, Gonzalez will interpret its legality, and GMA will have it for as long as she deems terrorists to be around. Enrile, of course, was an architect of martial law, Marcos' chief henchman before Fabian Ver supplanted him for that dubious honor. Gonzales, well, he's the security part of the term, "human security," his most formidable accomplishment in that respect being to try to sell Philippine sovereignty through Venable to the US Congress. Gonzalez is the human part of the term, "human security," his most formidable achievements in turn being to call Philip Alston a "*muchacho*" of the UN, say Cory bugged Kris, and suggest Julia Campbell was asking for it by trainsing alone in the wilds of Banaue. What can one say? He's only human.

And GMA, well, didn't somebody bug her bugging Garci into making her win by a million votes? But that piece of surveillance may not be admitted as evidence because it suffers from the most glaring legal deformity of all: It's true.

Kind of reminds you of that local folk song, "Doon Po Sa Amin": "*Sumayaw ang pilay,/ Kumanta ang pipi,/ Nanood ang bulag,/ Nakinig ang bingi* (The lame danced, the mute sang, the blind watched, and the deaf listened)."

Under normal circumstances, trusting Enrile, Gonzales, Gonzalez and GMA to fight terrorism is like trusting Mike Velarde to fight loud suits. But these are not normal circumstances. These are circumstances when people end up being presumed terrorists like Jonas Burgos, a true son to his father, who tried to better the lives of farmers, and Musa Dimasidsing, a true educator, who bequeathed to this country a lesson in honesty. Yes, presumed so, if only implicitly. Hermogenes Esperon has been free to laugh off the Burgoses' indictment of him, and they spat on Dimasidsing's ashes when they counted the fake votes he was at pains to expose. Giving this regime more powers to fight terrorism is like giving congressmen more money to fight poverty.

Indeed, these are circumstances when cheaters are rewarded with public office and whistle-blowers are punished with court-martial, when lies are rewarded with longevity and honesty punished by death, when innocence is prosecuted and guilt exonerated, when wrong is right and right is wrong, when evil is good and good evil, when impoverished peasants fighting for food and water are called terrorists and greedy men and women terrorizing the people are called government. My friend has every reason to fear for his life. In these circumstances, you're innocent, be *praning*. Be very, very *praning*.

But better yet, be angry. Be very, very angry. And realize there's only one thing to do with bugs, like cockroaches.

Squash them.

The other 'battle of Mindanao'

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

LET'S LEAVE THE DEPRESSING "BATTLE FOR Maguindanao" and turn to more inspiring developments in the micro, small and medium enterprise (MSME) field, especially on that big island. The MSME's importance as the real backbone of the economy was given added impetus when President Macapagal-Arroyo appointed Presidential Management Staff chief Cerge Remonde as Cabinet oversight officer for the MSMEs, especially in the field of micro-finance.

At the KCC Mall in General Santos City, the "Yamang Mindanao OTOP Island Fair" covering Regions 9, 10, 11, 12, Caraga and the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, was organized by the "One Town, One Product" division in the Department of Trade and Industry under Undersecretary Carissa Evangelista and opened last June 29 by Secretary Peter Favila. It was participated in by some 180 MSMEs which displayed a vast array of products that included processed foods, jewelry and fashion accessories, holiday décor, furniture, garments and many others. It attracted both foreign and domestic institutional buyers who bought some P28 million worth in cash and booked orders.

* * *

The top sellers in the food category were: Sabrosa Spanish-style sardines manufactured by the YY Sea International Corp. of Zamboanga Peninsula, which sold P15 million and took bulk orders from a company in China; Sunnish Coffee of Caraga with its innovative rice and corn beverage; and KM Foods of Southwestern Mindanao with its value-added tuna products. Cited as best food product was Region 11's Lucille Food Products for its calamansi carrot concentrate, followed by Magsaysay Farmers' Multi-Purpose Cooperative for its organically-produced Mag Rice, and Sabroso sardines. In the non-food category South Sea pearl crafter Tezoro del Mar of Region 9 posted the highest sales, followed by K6D Infinite Fashion of Region 9; furniture maker Wild Trend Woodcraft of Caraga; De Lara Agsam Novelties, with its outstanding necklace woven from agsam vine and rattan strips, laid with pearl, and Top Zion Handicrafts of Caraga, with its rug made from abaca bark and fiber.

Evangelista, national OTOP program manager, said this year's fair is expected to be a vast improvement on 2006, when 1,960 new OTOP entrepreneurs made a total investment of P1.89 billion, generating employment for 70,609 people and sales of P1.81 billion in the domestic market and $92.23 million in exports. Region 12 director Ibrahim Guiamedel, who worked very hard to organize the GenSan fair and facilitate the matching of buyers and sellers, stressed that the big attendance shows the great potential of Mindanao's SMEs to penetrate the global market.

* * *

Coming on the heels of the GenSan fair was the annual Franchise Show put up by the Association of Filipino Franchisers Inc. (AFFI), participated in by 175 business outfits last July 6-8 at the Megatrade Hall, SM MegaMall for its 10th anniversary. Cecile Alvarez and I visited the AFFI Expo and featured over dzRH "Franchise Guru" Armando Bartolome, who proudly pointed out that starting from a small band of 8 members in 1997, it has now grown to 85 members, mostly in the services sector. Starting out as micro-enterprises, AFFI members now generate sales of P49 million a day and employ hundreds of personnel. They are ready to lend their expertise to local investors, especially families of OFWs who wish to go into business.

* * *

Bartolome, president of the GMB Franchise Developers, is among the 16 members of AFFI being recognized at its 10th anniversary by the AFFI for his trailblazing and pioneering efforts in the past 14 years to popularize franchising and encourage investments. He is especially proud that where the franchise businesses used to be centered mainly in Metro Manila in the past, today they are found in many provinces and cities, and provide support services for call centers and related fields. Thanks to AFFI, OFW families are getting out of the usual tricycle and FX taxi operations and into more varied businesses. At least 10 OFW families sign up for a franchise business each day. AFFI works closely with Joey Concepcion III's "Go Negosyo."

At the AFFI Expo we met Rene Taal, who manages GK Pagtakhan Lechon Manok Inc., which grew from just a hole-in-the-wall operation in Cavite to some 24 outlets all over that province plus three branches in Metro Manila. GK Pagtakhan's Lechon Manok sells franchises for P500,000. We also met a young woman named Champ Reyes, who helps run the family business called Royal Caribbean Jamaican Patties, which is popular in the malls and around schools. It's very heartwarming to see these entrepreneurs' enthusiasm and faith in the country's future.

* * *

At the height of the political fever last May, I found a brief respite in the lovely tea musicale sponsored by the Johann Strauss Society (JSSP) of the Philippines, a support arm of the Cultural Center of the Philippines, at the Dasmariñas Village home of Letty SyQuia. Among those who rendered their musical talents were foreign diplomats based in Manila and their spouses.

JSSP was founded by Kay Siazon, wife of Ambassador to Japan Domingo Siazon, in 1999, during the 100th death anniversary of the renowned Austrian composer. The idea was to create a company of kindred souls who would animate the Manila cultural scene and help out in causes that advance this passion. To raise funds for the CCP and the many organizations that it supports, such as the Philippine National Red Cross, the Philippine Cancer Society, Alay Kapwa, the Philippine Band of Mercy, the Smokey Mountain Educational Program, and the reconstruction of the St. Bernard Chapel in Guinsaugon, Southern Leyte, the JSSP, led by its president, Fortune Aleta Ledesma, consul of Monaco to the Philippines, organizes the most awaited social event of the season, the Opera Ball and Presentation of Debutantes (scheduled for Feb. 23, 2008).

A step backwards

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

AS A CHILD, I TENDED TO LOOK ON THE SUNday Mass as a tiresome ritual we were coerced into taking part in. First of all, my mother, out of some unexplainable impulse, insisted on hearing Mass early in the morning, causing an uproar in the household as she sought to rouse her nine children out of bed. Then we had to put on our best outfits, with Mama checking that our socks were neatly pulled up, our hair brushed and pinned back or held in hair bands, and all of us girls properly equipped with lace veils, rosaries, knee pads and missals.

While the veil, rosary and knee pad were for appearance's and tradition's sake, the missal was a necessity. In those pre-Vatican II days, the priest said Mass with his back turned to the congregation, mumbling to himself in Latin, a language inaccessible to most of the faithful but which, to this day, resonates with mysticism and meaning. To follow what was going on in the altar area, we used the Missal as a guide, which provided English translations to the Latin text.

All this in addition to trying to keep still and awake during the incomprehensible proceedings, while we sought to find some form of involvement in the arcane ritual. Mama kept a sharp eye on everything going on in our aisle, now and then shuffling the seating order as we elbowed each other and bickered over seat space. She wasn't beyond administering a well-aimed knuckle at the temple of a misbehaving child, or sharply scolding the lot of us.

I remember looking on enviously at the children of less stringent parents who ran around in Church or came in armed with huge swirls of cotton candy or colorful balloons. I bet those kids have happier memories of Mass-going in those days.

* * *

I WAS in my pre-teens when the effects and reforms of Vatican II swept in. The first time I heard Mass with the priest speaking in English (or Filipino) and facing the congregation from a less ornate altar area, I felt a sense of liberation and inclusion. What had been strange and remote suddenly became accessible, familiar. Sure, I missed the old Latin phrases and the sense of grandeur they evoked, but I willingly traded these for language that drew me in and made it possible to actively participate in the Mass.

The biggest change, and one that drew the most comment, was the music. Folk music, all the rage in the late 1960s, was adapted into the Mass, providing songs that were not only singable, but whose lyrics were simpler, less grandiose and triumphalistic.

Of course, not everyone was happy with these changes. My mother complained about the "irreverence" of guitars accompanying the choir, while my aunt expressed shock the first time she heard Mass and a woman reader approached the altar. But young folks, me included, couldn't wait to throw off the lacy veils and leave the missals at home, now that we could follow the Mass with no need for interpretation and translation.

* * *

THE CHANGES made eminent sense, and indeed revitalized the Catholic Church. If the Mass was meant to be a community celebration, after all, then the entire community would have to participate, meaning, they understood what was going on, and the celebrant, the priest, invited and welcomed their participation and involvement. A major part of this reform was translating and saying Mass in languages familiar to the local congregation, and I'm sure "inculturation" has been a major factor in the growth of the Church around the world.

As with every major change and reform, Vatican II met with its critics and there were hold-outs for the "old order." A French cleric, the late Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre, founded the Society of St. Pius X, composed of priests who insisted on celebrating the Tridentine Mass, the old Mass form sidelined by Vatican II. Given the desire of the Vatican to bring the Church wholly into the new order, Popes John XXIII, Paul VI and John Paul I and II frowned on the intransigence of the hold-outs. When Lefebvre ordained four bishops without the Vatican's consent in 1988, he and the bishops were excommunicated, but the Society of St. Pius X gained new adherents. (There is a local congregation here, which has a church where the Latin Mass is celebrated.)

I don't think the dispute over the "Latin" versus the "vernacular" Mass was merely over language. There were sound reasons, after all, for the reforms instituted in the Mass, foremost of which was making the liturgical celebration truly a communal affair, open to all the faithful. Insisting on the Tridentine Mass, after all, was more than just insistence on using a particular dead language. It also meant insisting on keeping the elitist, exclusive and exclusionary nature not just of the Mass but of the Church itself.

* * *

NOW there's news that Pope Benedict XVI, in what has been described as a conciliatory gesture to the ultra-conservative flank of the Catholic Church, has authorized wider use of the Latin Mass, leaving it up to the discretion of pastors whether and how to allow the celebration of the "old" Mass alongside the newer rites.

News reports say liberals in the Church, as well as Jewish religious authorities, have raised objections to the Pope's order. Certainly, it strikes me as yet another step backwards, an indication of just how influential conservatives have grown under Benedict's watch.

Also striking is the Pope's bending over backwards to accommodate the backsliding elements of the Church while remaining resolute in his refusal to meet with and engage in meaningful dialogue with other members of the flock: women and gays in particular. Ironically, scholars say the future of the Church lies precisely in the greater inclusion and involvement of these two sectors of the Catholic faithful.

Big things in small packages

COMMENTARY

Myra Mabugat-Menguito

FOURTEEN YEARS AGO, THE COUPLES FOR Christ-Education Foundation Inc. set up a modest-sized day-care center to watch over the children of members while their parents were at their day jobs or doing volunteer work for CFC. We endeavored to get these youngsters ready for the "big school" through fun-laden reading readiness activities. At the same time, we made it a point to reinforce positive social values, like sharing and respect, in the children during their playtime. Not much later, parents in the communities where CFC was present started bringing their children over.

Today, this little day-care center has become a full-fledged education ministry. We now serve both preschoolers and adult learners. Non-Christians—including Muslims and indigenous peoples (IPs) and persons with disabilities with learning needs—are welcome as well.

The CFC-EFI's work now includes setting up community learning centers in barangays in Metro Manila and in the provinces. We serve public and private schools teachers, parents and *yayas* through values formation. Our efforts now are geared toward improving the reading capability of Filipino children and adults.

CFC-EFI's pre-school program follows the whole-person and integrated approach, providing children with activities that are based on their interests and level of growth and development. It puts special emphasis on home-school and parent-teacher partnership. It is enriched through curriculum development, teacher training and formation, and parent formation.

We charge a nominal tuition to families who can afford it. However, through the Gawad Kalinga's Sibol program we have brought this service to children from poor communities. Sibol operates in almost 400 GK sites nationwide.

CFC-EFI also has a special education program for exceptional individuals living in our communities. Its highest goal is for them to be fully integrated into society so that they may come to enjoy the fullness of life. Among those who support this program are the National Council for the Welfare of the Disabled, the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office, and De La Salle University.

Working closely with the Department of Education through its Alternative Learning System Accreditation & Equivalency (ALS A & E) program, CFC-EFI continuously promotes literacy nationwide through the Basic Literacy Program, and Project READ.

Project READ, in particular, is CFC-EFI's response to recent studies showing the Filipinos' poor reading skills. It aims to make reading attractive to children and youth. It also promotes the reading habit within the family. CFC-EFI works closely with various partners, among them the National Book Development Board (NBDB), Bagong Kulturang Pinoy, UP College of Education, and READ-Ability Center, in implementing Project READ.

We also have other community-based literacy initiatives such as the Bahay Karunungan Reading and Literacy Center. BK features community-level literacy training, reading clubs, computer-based programs, story telling and shared family reading activities. You can find BK centers in our Gawad Kalinga communities in Baseco, Tondo (through HSBC, Sa Aklat Sisikat, and a group of Assumption alumni), Villa Paraiso, Parañaque (through Rotary Club and Lufthansa Technik), Sison, Muntinlupa (through Pru-Life UK), and Amparo, Quezon City. The NBDB and the National Library have been greatly supportive in this regard.

CFC-EFI is also a service provider of this DepEd program. According to the DepEd, it has "the responsibility of securing resources to make our public schools competitive and is now calling on the private sector to serve as a major partner in the nation's development and in the improvement of the public education system." CFC-EFI's contribution to this program is IMPACT or the Empowerment and Mentoring Program for Parents, Caregivers and Teachers.

There is great promise in our work with IPs. It is a venue where the whole country can work together in providing not only education options, but other opportunities to preserve their rich culture. We have actively pursued partnerships with the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines-Episcopal Commission on Indigenous Peoples-Southcentral Luzon (CBCP-ECIP-SCL) and with the Archdiocese of Bataan. Presently, we are working with the IPs in Naujan and Bulalakao, Mindoro Oriental, as well as in Matalangao, Bataan. We are working closely with the Muslims in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao as we offer the Sibol Program in various GK sites in the area.

In order to raise children who will live victorious lives—children who shall become assets and not liabilities, givers and not takers, children who will grow up possessing the values they need to face the challenges of life with hope and joy—there is a great need to instill values and virtues in the lives of the significant adults affecting these children—their parents, teachers and caregivers (*yayas*). This is open to private and public schools, subdivisions and corporations.

Myra Mabugat-Menguito is executive director of CFC-EFI. For details on any of the above, please get in touch with CFC-EFI at (02) 7270681 to 87 or thru cfc_efi@yahoo.com.

Who I am

YOUNG BLOOD

Alyssa Pauline P. Rivera

We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—Ed.

PEN, INK AND A BLANK SHEET OF PAPER—THESE THREE things sum up who I am.

Since I was young, a pen and a blank sheet of paper have been my closest companion. For I was a child who grew up far from the hearts of the people I call family. My mother is a busy woman, and my dad is almost like her. Everyone just seems to have little interest in me. When I am excited to tell what happened to me during the day, everybody is too tired to listen. When I feel hurt and broken, no one cares to give me a sympathetic ear.

I grew up trying to catch the attention of the people who I thought should always be there when I need them, since I have been told "that's what families are for." But maybe I am wrong and I have an overdose of childish illusions.

One time as I was thinking about how to deal with these disappointments, I came across some old school notebooks. I opened one of these notebooks and started pouring my heart out on its pages. I wrote down all the pain I was feeling, and it felt good. It was a relief.

Since then, I have been keeping a journal. It is this journal that knows my real life. And it has become my closest friend.

Each time I write an entry, I picture my journal as something alive. It is the only thing that understands me. It is the only thing who knows who I really am. And because of it, I fell in love with writing.

When we were in grade school, we were asked to write down what we wanted to be someday in our yearbook. I didn't know what I wanted to be back then, although I was already writing short stories and essays. So I just make things up.

But as time went by, I and my journal shared more and more memories, and then I figured out what I really wanted to be: a writer.

I wanted to be a writer because I knew writing was the only thing I was good at. I wanted to be a writer because ever since I was young, writing was something I was eager to do.

When I write things down, I become what I really am. I make everything possible. I enter a world filled with magic. Every time I hold pen and paper, my mind floats to a different and happy dimension. I am dazzled by scores of ideas that enter my head. When I write things, I begin to live and I see the portion of my life that gives me strength to endure every day's challenges. And I am motivated to continue looking up and moving forward.

But I suppose that while some dreams are meant to be fulfilled, others are not. And my biggest dream is now part of the "not to be fulfilled" list. For when I was about to take a big step toward that dream of mine, my parents didn't allow me to take the course I wanted to take. They didn't want me to leave our hometown, and unfortunately the schools near our place do not offer courses like journalism or creative writing. So I have ended up enrolling in a course which I don't even like.

When that happened, I thought that was the end of my ambition. But fate was good to me. I met a friend who shares my passion and who can therefore understand me. I never told him this, but he is the reason I'm not giving up that dream. He continues to remind me what I am in ways he probably is not conscious about. But for me, it is enough that one person appreciates what I am and that is enough to keep alive the aspiration I once thought I have lost.

Why do I love to write? I love to write because it is the only way I can give voice to the self that I'm holding back. I like to write to make people happy, to motivate them, to encourage them, to leave a mark in their lives that they will never forget. I will create characters that people love. I will write essays that will touch their lives and inspire them to be everything they can be. I will compose poems that will always be remembered by everyone who reads them. I will write because until now, I'm still seeking something that will complete me and I am hoping that as I write from the depths of my soul, I will find out what I have been looking for all of my life. I will write and continue to write for those few who believe I can do it and do it well.

Even though I cannot attend writing courses right now, I am determined not to let it keep me from trying to excel in this field. I will continue to write, because I am doing this for myself. Writing isn't just what I do. It is who I am.

Alyssa Pauline P. Rivera, 16, is a BS Accountancy student at the University of La Salette, Isabela.

NOTICE TO YOUNGBLOOD CONTRIBUTORS:

Send your contributions by e-mail to youngblood@inquirer.com.ph together with your address, age and the school, course and year you're enrolled in or, if employed, the position you're holding and the company you work with. Contributions to Youngblood should not have been previously published.

IN THE NEWS

Lintang Bedol

Senators as ingrates

AS A CONCERNED CITIZEN WHO participated in the latest electoral process, I am disturbed by the current behavior of some newly elected senators who ran under the banner of the Genuine Opposition. Yes, I voted for Francis Escudero and Alan Peter Cayetano, hoping that they would serve as fiscalizers. And now, my friends, co-workers and I, who "invested" in these young and ambitious political animals, have these things to say to them:

How can you justify your act of joining forces with the administration senators? Do you consider the people's interest to be of less importance than your friendship with—and the personal ambitions of—Sen. Manuel Villar? Have you not learned anything from the "Trillanes phenomenon"?

It is too early, but we already see political butterflies. We just hope you will be able to redeem yourselves in the future.

Whether he is allowed to serve as senator or kept in the dungeons of Gen. Hermogenes Esperon, Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV is already a success for standing up bravely for his beliefs and for keeping his words and commitments. When the going gets tough, public servants reveal what they are truly made of.

Who cares about Senators Miriam Defensor-Santiago, Lito Lapid, Juan Ponce Enrile and a host of turncoats like Vicente Sotto and Teresa Oreta? They pale in comparison to former Senators Raul Roco, Jovito Salonga and Teofisto Guingona.

Santiago et al. will be remembered for aligning themselves with the party that promised to provide them with the resources they needed to advance their political careers; Salonga et al., for their principles and integrity.

Citizens have done their part and negated the much-vaunted command votes of Malacañang. They will remember Escudero and Cayetano as ingrates, who turned against the wishes of the people who gave their mandate as senators.

—MAYUMI MERCADO,
mayryumi_07@yahoo.com.ph

Muslims harassing Christians

RE THE NEWS ITEM ON THE harassment of Muslims (INQUIRER, 6/29/07), I agree that such practice should be stopped. However, to show their sincerity, the same Muslim leaders raising a howl against the practice must also raise their voices against the persecution and the systematic extermination of Christians in Muslim countries, such as Iraq and Saudi Arabia. In these countries, the Christians not only face harassment, they are also deprived of many of their basic rights.

Muslims should be taught to tolerate other religions. It is remarkable that we even read of some German Muslims who have converted to Christianity being terrorized by Muslim fanatics in Germany itself. And the Philippines has this common experience of Catholic priests being kidnapped, brutalized and killed by Muslim fanatics.

All right, the fanatics are in the minority. But the supposed nonfanatical Muslims have shown very little sympathy for the victims of Muslim fanaticism.

Can you imagine what would happen if Islam should one day become the majority religion in this country?

—RICARDO CHUA,
Manila, rchua2007@hotmail.com

LETTERS TO THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Rural workers need new jobs

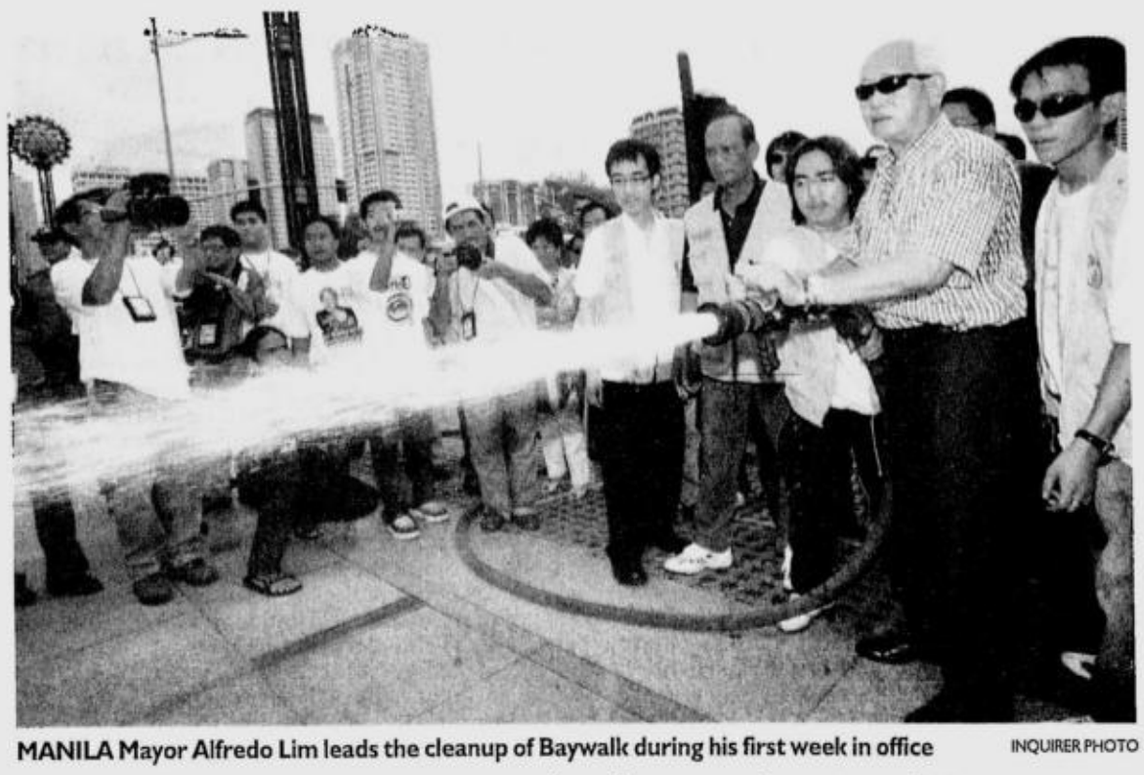
THE PHILIPPINES IS THE ONLY country that initiated three agrarian reform programs in a century: the first, during the Macapagal administration; the second, PD 27, during Marcos' martial law; and the third, the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program, during the Aquino administration. Agrarian reform has to end; let the law of economics operate.

We need the rural labor population to move to other industries (service, manufacturing, tourism, etc.). We cannot economically grow with so many of our population engaged in agriculture. We need to consolidate productive lands for use of the few productive farmers. In the United States less than one percent of the population is engaged in agriculture; and this sector produces enough food for the country and the world.

The CARP, which was supposed to expire but was extended in 1997, need not be extended for the second time. We have to move forward by consolidating productive lands, which is supposed to happen 10 years after the introduction of a land reform program, as experienced in other countries.

The Department of Agrarian Reform should be abolished and all its functions transferred to the Department of Agriculture. We need to look forward to other opportunities. The children of farmers do not have to stay in the farming sector. There are other opportunities out there aside from farming. Let's move on.

—LEO PANDAC,
leopandac@gmail.com



MANILA Mayor Alfredo Lim leads the cleanup of Baywalk during his first week in office INQUIRER PHOTO

Lim's decision on tow trucks favors abusive drivers

I AM QUITE DISAPPOINTED WITH Manila Mayor Alfredo Lim.

While he stood his ground on not renewing the licenses of city-accredited private tow trucks, he appears to be treating abusive drivers of both public and private vehicles with kid gloves by reducing the penalty for illegal parking and just by issuing a citation ticket—a mere slap on the wrist.

I laud his decision to ban private tow trucks from the streets; after all, many tow truck crews indiscriminately pull away private vehicles even if the vehicles have not violated any traffic regulation (yet, illegally parked Manila City Hall vehicles are not touched). But reducing the traffic fines and merely issuing a traffic ticket will only embolden abusive motorists to park anywhere they please. (They can afford to pay the fines anyway, and they know that their vehicle will not be towed anymore.)

Surely, as long as Lim is mayor, more sidewalks will be turned into parking areas, and we're going to see a lot of double-parking. One example is Laong Laan Street, from the Infant Jesus Hospital near M. dela Fuente Street, where flower shops occupy not only the sidewalk but also the roadway—further contributing to the worsening, everyday traffic in that area.

All these because Lim would rather inconvenience the pedestrians (who can no longer use most of Manila's sidewalks because of Lim's and his predecessor's neglect) than the abusive drivers.

—MARK VIÑAS,
manilavigilante@yahoo.com

GSIS wasting funds to replace unused eCard

I'M AN ORDINARY GOVERNMENT employee and I fully agree with Ramon Farolan in demanding the ouster of Winston Garcia from the Government Service Insurance System. (INQUIRER, 7/2/07) It's about time that the GSIS be run by competent technocrats. Garcia is a shame.

Enough of the inefficiency and corruption. Imagine the eCard which I did not use, and now the GSIS is again "replacing" it at additional cost, chargeable against GSIS funds.

Surely, something smells fishy. Somebody seems to be making money. Corruption at its worst?

—NIKES DIZON,
7055 Wilson St.,
Makati City

Empty arguments and teasers to confuse consumers

THIS REFERS TO THE THOUGHT-provoking claims made by Conrado Banal in his June 26 column regarding the electricity rates issue.

Sadly, Banal failed to substantiate his claims and explain his bases for making them, thus leaving his readers confused. Banal relishes the "sense of glory" that comes with his column, but doesn't act as a responsible journalist or opinion maker.

He railed against a "Napocor-friendly" consumer group. A very interesting accusation. But he should have gone into details to support his allegation. But did Banal even try to get the side of the National Association of Electricity Consumers for Reforms (Nasecore)? He even went to the extreme of accusing the Supreme Court of favoring Nasecore in its decisions. How, he did not explain either.

How a non-governmental organization got a favorable decision from the highest court of the land—a decision that at the same time assails a state department and a regulatory commission—Banal should have considered that this could have happened only on strong, solid and reasonable grounds.

It is so unfortunate that instead of helping his readers understand the energy sector, Banal churned up empty arguments and teasers, "throwing stones" at a respected institution, without explaining the whole situation. Banal should have discussed how amending the implementing rules and regulations of the Electric Power Industry Reform Act (Epira) would lead to automatic increases in our monthly electric bills. He should have helped the people understand why they should stand guard against any attempt to exclude consumers from due process. He should have explained that the Energy Regulatory Commission is precisely there to ensure consumers' participation in such a process; that excluding consumers here goes against the Epira and the reforms that the law envisions; that should the proposed amendment be approved, consumers would again be paying unused electricity.

—YVETTE CASIN,
bluveejay@yahoo.com

Fashion Week

Jul. 13-31

Teens, Ladies & Men's Wear,
Shoes, Bags, Accessories, Jeans & Fabrics.

Featuring the hottest colors of the season!

Hot Red
Shiny Silver
Sugared Plum
Gold Rush
Elegant Browns
Night Life

Mannequin Draping, RTW Exhibit & Free Design @ the Textile Dept. featuring *Fashion Designers*
(selected stores only)

Fun Booths
Experience fun gimmicks
and get Exciting Freebies!
Visit our SALON, SCENTsibility
& KIKAY Booths (Cebu Stores & Market! Market!)
Pick-A-Prize (Legazpi & Lucena)

SCENTSibility Booth
Try out the latest scents and avail special discounts

Salon Booth
Spend time pampering yourself and get free services-free facial, free hair styling, free consultation and other services offered per location

KIKAY Booth
Special discounts on Kikay items plus free makeover

In cooperation with:
ESCADA NR dunhill WELLA Lactacyd MAXFACTOR

See poster mechanics for more details

Celebrity Visits!

Metro Legazpi
Jul. 14

Dominic Ochoa

Metro Lucena
Jul. 15

Kris Martinez & Biboy Ramirez
Image Models

Metro Market! Market!
Jul. 14

Iwa Moto

Jul. 22

Isabel Oli

Jul. 21 - Alfred Vargas
2 pm- Metro Colon
4 pm- Metro Mandaue
6 pm- Metro Ayala

METRO
MARKET! MARKET!
www.metrogaisano.com

COLON • MANDAUE • AYALA • LEGAZPI • LUCENA • MARKET! MARKET!

Growth and urbanization

COMMENTARY

Anna Marie A. Karaos
John J. Carroll Institute on Church and Social Issues

WHEN CITY OFFICIALS TALK OF their difficulties in providing basic services to their growing populations, it is not uncommon for such conversations to end with the wishful thought that people would just stop migrating to cities. In no time I am sure they will realize how unreal this solution is. Indeed the movement of people to cities is as unstoppable as waves moving out to the shore and nothing can be more foolish than trying to prevent this from happening.

But even if it were possible to stop the migration of people to cities, is this actually a good thing?

Urban specialists generally acknowledge that there exists a positive relationship between economic growth and the rate of urbanization, defined simply as the proportion of a country's population living in what are considered urban areas. More developed societies have more of their populations residing in cities compared to less developed countries. Moreover, periods of high growth for any given country are also usually accompanied by high rates of urbanization.

The reasons for this seem almost obvious. Economic growth is fueled by the expansion of industry, commerce, finance and services which mostly take place in cities. The jobs generated by these economic activities attract people in search of work and higher pay. And the more urban populations and incomes grow, the more consumption and investment also increase, further contributing to economic growth.

Because economic growth is presumably one of the more important goals of government policy, it makes little sense for policymakers and urban governments to promote growth and then attempt to stop a logical, if not natural, consequence of this growth which is the movement of people to cities. The wiser course of action would seem to be to adequately plan for the expected growth in population.

The Philippines today has one of the highest rates of urbanization in the East Asian and Pacific region at roughly 53 percent. Given this fact, why has its economic growth rate in recent decades fallen behind its neighbors? In a workshop I recently attended on "Sustainable Development on the Urban Fringe," which was intended to disseminate the findings of a World Bank-sponsored study on the subject, the main speaker posed this intriguing question on the Philippine case. Why is it that the generally established connection between economic growth and urbanization has found an exception in the Philippines?

Per capita GDP growth and urbanization rates of Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, China, South Korea and the Philippines were plotted for the years 1960, 1980 and 2000. For all countries, the increase in the rate of urbanization was accompanied by positive growth rates in per capita GDP except for the Philippines during the period between 1980 and 2000. During this period the country registered no growth in real per capita GDP despite the rapid rise in the rate of urbanization. For the earlier period 1960 to 1980, the Philippines exhibited the general trend of rising per capita GDP and urbanization rates.

Interestingly, though more depressing, the Philippine situation was comparable to those of South Korea and Malaysia both in terms of urbanization rates and real GDP per capita in the 1960s. The other countries—Indonesia, China and Thailand—had considerably lower urbanization rates and GDP per capita back then. But from the 1980s onwards, Malaysia and South Korea sped way ahead of the pack both in terms of GDP per capita growth and the rate of urbanization. While the Philippines managed to keep pace with the two countries' high urbanization rates, its per capita growth performance failed to follow suit as it remained on a plateau over this period.

There are two parts to the question posed earlier. Why has urbanization in the country proceeded at a fast rate seemingly independently of the poor economic performance? Secondly, why was the country unable to translate its high urbanization rate into the expected increases in income, consumption and investment which must logically result in a better growth record? The participants in that forum offered various explanations for this disheartening finding, among them the Philippines' high population growth rate, the redrawing or reclassification of urban boundaries which possibly inflated the urbanization rate, and political and governance issues which dampened economic growth.

For city authorities and urban planners, however, dwelling on the reasons for this phenomenon may not be as crucial as understanding its implications for their immediate task of managing urban growth. Indeed, the dire implications of this finding cannot escape the concern of agencies and local governments responsible for meeting the growing demand for infrastructure and services while contending with low revenue collections, competing pressures on land use and urban residents' limited paying capacity due to high poverty levels.

What then can be done? One thing we know is that controlling the movement of people to cities is not likely to succeed. The better performing cities will always attract people because they offer economic opportunities and a better quality of life. In a sense cities have no choice but to meet the challenges of urban growth through better fiscal management, urban planning, environmental and social interventions. A growing urban population is better seen as a resource than a burden. The only way our cities can bring growth to the country is for them to successfully convert their growing populations into real human capital.

NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074)443-9255
Fax No. (074)443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU
2nd Floor, Los Baños Bldg
Cor. Peñaranda and Aguinaldo Sts.
Legazpi City
Telefax No. (052) 480-4182
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph

Website: www.inquirer.net/regions

Across the NATION

Text us your feedback: inquirer atn name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

VISAYAS BUREAU
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: inq_cebu@inquirer.com.ph

MINDANAO BUREAU
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. No. (082)244-1770 to 71
Fax No. (082)244-1771
E-mail: inq_davao@inquirer.com.ph

Feud among execs threatening Clark plan as logistics center

CLARK FREEPORT—OFFICIALS OF GOVERNMENT base conversion agencies are fighting over the use of a 300-hectare land at the Diosdado Macapagal International Airport that may block or push the facility's future as the country's main gateway and logistics hub, documents showed.

Nestor Mangio, chair of the Clark International Airport Corp. (CIAC) that manages the DMIA, has asked President Macapagal-Arroyo to order the Clark Development Corp. (CDC) and the Bases Conversion Development Authority (BCDA) to return the 300 hectares on DMIA's IE 5 area to the Aviation City.

"This is the most logical site for the envisioned logistics area. This will bring back our Aviation City to the original area of 2,500 hectares instead of 2,200 (hectares). Our Aviation City will more or less be at par with other airports in the Asian region," Mangio told the President in a June 17 letter.

In the same letter, he cited the size of land areas of airports that would compete with the DMIA.

According to Mangio, the airport in Kansai, Japan covers 1,050 hectares; in Korea, 5,600 hectares; Shanghai, China, 4,000 hectares; Beijing, China, 4,700 hectares; Thailand, 2,657 hectares; Malaysia, 10,000 hectares; Singapore, 1,300 hectares; and Hong Kong, 1,255 hectares.

Mangio also opposed the construction of an interchange at the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway "in the middle of the boundary of the Aviation Complex and the IE 5."

This, he noted, would "not meet the minimum standard distance of 5 km between two interchanges when the airport and logistics center interchange is constructed."

> 'The high-rise buildings of Makati, Fort Bonifacio and Ortigas do not apply in Clark...'

He was referring to the planned P56-billion gateway project that would enable the DMIA to handle five million passengers and operate a world-class logistics center.

Mangio was not the only official who wanted to dedicate the whole area of the DMIA to Ms Arroyo's plan of a logistics hub.

Secretary Edgardo Pamintuan, chair of the Subic-Clark Alliance for Development Council, on June 15 wrote a memorandum to officials of the BCDA, CDC and CIAC on the central business district (CBD) project that the CDC and BCDA planned to build on the disputed area.

The CDC on June 7 advertised in national newspapers an invitation to apply for eligibility and to bid on a feasibility study for the project.

Pamintuan struck down the CBD proposal.

"I believe that developing a CBD is not a bad idea, but it may not be appropriate for the IE 5 area in Clark, whose development orientation should revolve around its airport and aviation facilities and complex," he said.

He said the Air Transportation Office, based on standards set by the International Civil Aviation Organization, had said "there are existing structures within the freeport which [violate] required building height limits of ICAO and as such are obstructions to the flight pattern of the DMIA."

"The high-rise buildings of Makati, Fort Bonifacio and Ortigas do not apply in Clark," the ATO said, as shown in the minutes of a May 27 consultation.

Pamintuan said "the President has been crystal clear in her vision for Clark, Subic and the corridor between the two facilities."

"[Ms Arroyo] wants to see a logistics hub out of the Clark-Subic corridor to put our country in a position where it can take advantage of the burgeoning global logistics business, as Asia and the Pacific are moving toward economic integration," said Pamintuan.

CDC president Levy Laus said "there should be no conflict because we can talk and agree."

The 300-hectare disputed area, he said, is owned by the BCDA, with CDC as real estate manager. *Tonette Orejas, Inquirer Central Luzon*

₱465M seen wasted on dredging in Albay

By Ephraim Aguilar
Inquirer Southern Luzon

LEGAZPI CITY—THE GOVERNment would have saved as much as P465 million in taxpayers' money had it used manual labor for its 30 dredging and earth-diking projects in Albay, an official of the Department of Public Works and Highways disclosed.

Romeo Esplana of the DPWH legal office in Bicol, said the government did not really need to spend P655 million for dredging the 11-kilometer Yawa River if it only declared its channels an open quarry site.

The river leading to the Albay Gulf swelled at the height of Supertyphoon "Reming" last year, causing flooding in Legazpi City and the neighboring Daraga town, and dumping millions of cubic meters of sand in these areas.

"Some 50,000 cubic meters of sand could be possibly dredged in one day using the labor-intensive method, which could create a stream of economic benefits at the local level," said Esplana, who also holds a masteral degree in Development Management from the Asian Institute of Management.

Overpriced?

The river alone can accommodate some 50 quarry sites, he said. By means of the "labor-intensive method," he said, the government would have been able to generate jobs, especially for people who lost their livelihood to typhoons.

Esplana roughly estimated government savings at 70 percent of the total project cost or P465 million.

Earlier, former Gov. Fernando Gonzalez questioned as "likely overpriced" the multimillion-peso dredging and earth-diking projects.

What was needed were permanent flood-control facilities and not dredging and collapsible earth-dikes, which would all be useless when heavy rains come, Gonzalez said.

Orlando Roces, DPWH regional director, told the INQUIRER in a mobile phone interview that the DPWH could not have misused government funds since the projects underwent strict monitoring by the agency's inspectorate group and quality control unit.

"There will also be a post-inspection analysis to be done by the Commission on Audit," Roces said.

Machines vs men

He added that the contracts went under bidding, except for 20 percent of the projects, which were subjected to a negotiated procurement, being "emergency" in nature after the calamities that struck Bicol.

Esplana urged the public to inquire and investigate how public funds were being used by the government.

Under the mechanized strategy, in which dredging projects are awarded to contractors, the government would spend P150 per cubic meter, Esplana explained. In the labor-intensive method, it would spend only P1.37. Dredging 50,000 cubic meters of sand with machines amounted to P7.5 million per day, while workers could have done the job for P68,500 per day.

ROWING TEAM
JOE HARESH TANODRA/CONTRIBUTOR
It's an early day's work for this father and son who row their boat back home from a market in Tagbilaran City where they sold fish. Fishing is the main livelihood for many in Tagbilaran.

View from top of Mt. Everest shows global warming real

OLONGAPO CITY—REGIE PABLO reached the summit of Mt. Everest, the world's tallest mountain, on May 17 this year and saw the threats of global warming along the trail.

Pablo, 36, who stepped on Mt. Everest's summit a day after the first group of Filipinas reached the peak, said the trained eyes of mountaineers could see the destruction in the mountains.

"I want to confirm that global warming is real," said Pablo, the lone Filipino in the 12-member Asian Trekking International Everest Expedition Team.

As part of their environmental advocacy, he said mountaineers usually report to authorities what they witness in the mountains, even the illegal activities.

Shrinking forests

"Mt. Everest used to accommodate 45 climbers on its summit. Now, it can accommodate only 15," Pablo said, attributing the decrease in the summit's size to global warming.

"Here in the Philippines, our forest line is already receding. *Lumiliit na ang kabundukan natin, pumapangit na yung* natural forest line *natin* (Our forests are shrinking, our natural forests are deteriorating)," he said.

Pablo, a native of Olongapo City and credited as the seventh Filipino to reach Mt. Everest's summit, said he first felt the "environmentalist" in him when he saw the destruction of natural resources when he worked for a mining firm in Zambales.

It was also during that time when he started to appreciate the beauty of the mountains.

Life's purpose

Mountaineering, he said, hardened his resolve to fight for the preservation of the country's natural resources through partnerships with various groups and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

He said the government should encourage mountaineering in schools as a recreation sport not only because the experience is very educational but also because of the support that mountaineers can do in safeguarding the country's forests.

"This is our purpose in life as mountaineers—to report what is going on with our environment," Pablo said. *Ansbert Joaquin, Inquirer Central Luzon*

Bodies of 5 men turn up in Batangas towns

CAMP VICENTE LIM, LAGUNA—The bodies of five men believed to be victims of summary executions were discovered in separate villages in Tanauan City and nearby Talisay town in Batangas province on Monday morning, police said.

Senior Supt. Prudencio Bañas, Batangas police director, said the five bodies remain unidentified.

At around 6 a.m., a bread vendor called the attention of the village officials of Barangay Balele in Tanauan City after he found two bodies in a vacant lot.

Supt. Francisco Rodriguez, Tanuan police chief, said the bodies were both tied and apparently died from bullet wounds.

An INQUIRER source, however, said village officials actually found three victims from the area.

One of the victims was still alive and was brought to a nearby hospital.

Asked about the supposed survivor, Rodriguez said: "We're still doing our investigation. I cannot comment about that at this time."

In nearby Talisay town, residents also found three male bodies dumped along the roadside of Barangay Aya.

SPO1 Tony Unahon, investigator at Talisay police station, said residents called up their office at around 5:55 a.m. to report that three bodies were found in the area.

He said two of the three victims were also tied. All had bullet wounds in different parts of the bodies.

Unahon said the victims were in their early 20s.

"The victims all looked young," he said in a phone interview.

Unahon said the victims were brought to a local morgue.

Bañas said they still could not tell if the bodies were dumped by a single group of suspects. *Marlon Ramos, Inquirer Southern Luzon*

Divide-Quezon plan critics told: Let vote decide

LUCENA CITY—QUEZON REP. Lorenzo "Erin" Tañada III has asked critics of a proposed legislation seeking to divide Quezon province to let the people vote on the issue in a plebiscite.

"Let the people decide. I am confident that given the facts, Quezonians will vote to have Quezon del Norte and Quezon del Sur. It is not a divisive issue. It is a genuine call of the people to have real development," Tañada said in a statement furnished the INQUIRER.

The proposed legislation was filed by then Quezon Representatives Wigberto Tañada and Rafael Nantes in the 11th Congress. Nantes is now the governor of the province.

According to the measure, the first and second districts will be known as Quezon del Norte with 17 towns, and Lucena City will remain as capital. Quezon del Sur will have at least 22 towns in the third and fourth districts.

The Senate has already approved the proposal, which is only awaiting the signature of President Macapagal-Arroyo for it to become a law.

Tañada III, a Liberal Party lawmaker from the fourth district, debunked the opposition claim about the lack of public consultation on the proposal. "Invitations had been sent to various sectors, even provincial officials, during the House and Senate hearings, but they did not show up," he said.

Their absence "is a strong indication of how genuine their concern is for the development of the entire province," Tañada said. "But ultimately, the best consultation that we can conduct with regard to the creation of Quezon del Sur is through the plebiscite."

Newly elected Vice Gov. Carlos Portes has predicted that the proposed legislation would again ignite a heated debate that could polarize the people.

The four districts of the province are currently experiencing economic growth and the reasons raised several years ago for the split are no longer valid, Portes said.

He vowed to wage an information and educational campaign to urge the people to reject the legislation, should it be brought to a plebiscite.

Tañada III noted that in 2003, Aurora—which used to be part of Quezon—ranked 38th in the Human Development Index (measured in terms of access to education, health and income level) compared to Quezon which ranked 42nd.

"Conceding that there has been a lot of development within the province the past years, it was not because of better management coming from the provincial capitol but more because of the individual initiatives of the congressmen of the province," he said.

He pointed out that the long stretch of cemented highway in the Bondoc Peninsula was not due to the allocation that came from the province's coffers but because of the leadership and persistence of Rep. Danilo Suarez.

"Development is not measured by infrastructure alone. You can have many buildings brandishing the names of those who had it built, but are there enough doctors, equipment and medicines in the provincial hospitals? Are there good teachers in our public school system? Do farmers have irrigation? Do people have access to safe drinking water?" Tañada III said.

Quezon is too large a province with 40 diverse municipalities and a bursting city that it is administratively difficult to manage with just one set of provincial officials, he said. *Delfin Mallari Jr., Inquirer Southern Luzon*

GMA heeds priest's plea for irrigation dam

LIBMANAN, CAMARINES SUR—Heeding a priest's appeal for the government to rehabilitate an aging and faltering irrigation systems, President Macapagal-Arroyo has ordered the National Irrigation Administration to conduct a feasibility study of a dam project in the district where her son Dato was elected congressman.

Msgr. Manuel Ricafort, parish priest and head of the Prelature of Libmanan, had told the President about the farmers' problem in a homily during a thanksgiving Mass for Dato over a week ago. The "town was once the rice granary of the province and it is not now anymore," he said.

> 'The town was once the rice granary of the province and it is not now anymore'

Ricafort had earlier relayed the problem to the Presidential Management Staff (PMS) and undersecretaries who visited and asked him two weeks before the elections what the people here need. He cited the irrigation system that, he said, was too costly for the farmers, aside from its on-and-off operation.

High costs

After the Mass and oath-taking of her son, Ms Arroyo proceeded to the NIA office in Barangay Handong here for a meeting with leaders of an irrigators' association.

Alejandro Nano, president of the BCT Pump Irrigators Association, told her of the high cost of irrigation fees equivalent to six cavans of palay per hectare for one cropping season although the irrigation system was unreliable.

Called the Libmanan-Cabusao Pump Irrigation System (LCPIS), the P85.6-million irrigation system the NIA installed in the late '70s during the Marcos regime, irrigates some 2,195 hectares of rice lands in Libmanan and the neighboring Cabusao town. It was the first integrated area development project of the Philippine government and the US Agency for International Development.

Beneficiaries

The LCPIS includes the participation from beneficiaries as a major component. It runs on four units of pumps driven by an equal number of 250-horsepower electric motors that consume P6 million worth of fuel for two cropping season.

According to Eduardo Yu, public relations officer of the NIA Bicol Regional Office, the facility, including the cost of engine oil, staff salaries and overhead expenses, could not be subsidized by the irrigation fees collected from farmers.

Yu said the LCPIS stopped operation in the second half of 2004 up to the first half of 2006 as funds ran short because of inadequate collection of service fees.

Lack of fees

During the meeting with the President, the farmers suggested the construction of an irrigation dam to save fuel.

Ms Arroyo ordered NIA Administrator Marcelino Tugaoen Jr. to complete the feasibility study of the dam project along the Awayan River as replacement of the existing pump system of the LCPIS.

So far, P22 million has been released to the NIA for the rehabilitation of the LCPIS, NIA regional manager Alexander A. Beuyan told Ms Arroyo. *Juan Escandor Jr., Inquirer Southern Luzon*

BIRD FLU FEAR BING GONZALES/INQUIRER MINDANAO

A black palm cockatoo from Indonesia is kept in a cage after it and several other wild birds and other animal were confiscated by agents of the Protected Areas and Wildlife Division of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in Davao City.

Groups in Taal to sue proponents of spa

TALISAY, BATANGAS—WHILE hailing the cancellation of an environmental compliance certificate granted to a Korean spa project on Taal Volcano, island settlers said environment officials, Talisay Mayor Florencio Manimtim and other government agencies were still liable for allowing it in the first place.

Ato Belen, head of the Samahan ng Magbubukid ng Batangas (Sambat), said the group was planning to sue them before the Ombudsman.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources eventually cancelled the ECC it gave to Jung Ang Interventure Inc. after suspending the permit issued to the Korean firm for violating at least seven conditions stipulated in the certificate, including social acceptability.

In a phone interview, Belen said the land titles awarded to the settlers should also be scrapped since the active volcano had been declared a protected area. He expressed fears that the owners would only sell their property to developers like Jung Ang.

At least 5,000 people are living in Taal Volcano, according to the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology here.

Two weeks ago, hundreds of farmers, fishermen and other islanders, led by the Samahan ng mga Maralitang Mamamayan sa Palibot ng Lawa ng Taal, held a two-day rally to show their disgust over the construction of the spa and wellness center. Local officials had argued that it would boost tourism.

The protesters said the project would not only destroy the rich natural resources of the volcano but also the livelihood of more than 6,000 people in eight villages.

On July 14, the residents plan to stage a fluvial parade around Taal Lake and Taal Volcano and offer thanksgiving rituals for Mother Nature for stopping the spa project. *Marlon Alexander Luistro, Inquirer Southern Luzon*

Comelec seeks end to Abra election standoff

BAGUIO CITY—THE COMMISSION on Elections has directed Abra's election officials to proceed with the canvassing of votes from Tineg town to end a deadlock that has delayed the proclamation of the winning mayor in the town and the lone representative of Abra.

The municipal board of canvassers reconvened here on Monday to begin the canvass of three remaining precincts in Tineg, upon the instruction of Comelec Chair Benjamin Abalos.

The final tally of the Tineg precincts would determine who between reelectionist Mayor Edwin Crisologo and Lenin Benwaren has been elected mayor of the town. The tally would also settle who between former Gov. Vicente Valera and former Lagayan Mayor Cecilia Luna would represent Abra in the House of Representatives.

Tineg's Precincts 10, 12b and 13b represent more than 300 votes that could swing the votes for either Valera or Luna.

In a resolution released last week, the Comelec *en banc* enumerated a list of cases that it remanded to local election officials for resolution.

The Tineg case, a complaint filed against the canvass results of Dolores town and two complaints against the tally for representative were among the cases that the Comelec commissioners sent back to their respective boards of canvassers.

"All petitions for disqualification, failure of elections or analogous cases, not being pre-proclamation controversies, and therefore, not governed by Section 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and particularly by the second paragraph of Section 6, Republic Act No. 7166 [synchronized elections law], shall remain active cases," even after June 30, when the terms of previous officials are deemed expired, according to Comelec Resolution 8212.

This means that the tally completed by the canvass boards does not prevent losing candidates from elevating their appeal.

But Benwaren, through a lawyer, asked the board to delay the canvass again, citing a rule that grants a petitioner five days from the day he receives a resolution to seek remedies.

The canvass has been reset to July 13.

Concluding the Tineg count will not resolve the tension created by a series of violent incidents there, said Estelita Cordero, lawyer of Crisologo.

Cordero said the police have not yet given her client sufficient explanation on how a gunman managed to penetrate a security cordon to shoot Crisologo's wife, Brenda, during a break at the canvassing of Tineg votes at a school in Bangued town on May 17.

The gunman, Totoy Buyao, was shot dead by soldiers and policemen after the attack.

Brenda Crisologo died on June 24 at the St. Luke's Medical Center, more than a month after she was shot. *Vincent Cabreza, Inquirer Northern Luzon*

More taken ill by typhoid in Davao Sur

STA. CRUZ, DAVAO DEL SUR—The number of children getting afflicted with typhoid fever here continues to rise as health officials struggle to prevent the spread of the disease to other areas.

As of yesterday, around 200 children have already been afflicted by the water-borne disease, which is now lurking over at least five villages.

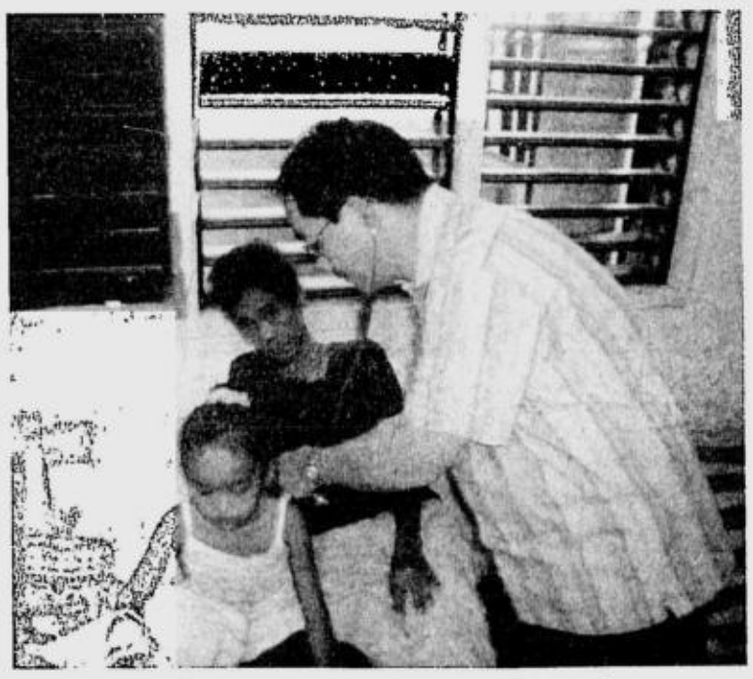
Mayor Joel Ray Lopez said the municipal government continues to provide medicines to the victims.

He said he also directed the municipal health office to find out the source of the contaminated water that is causing the disease, even as he said it could be more likely the spring found in Barangay Saliducon.

But residents of the affected villages of Tuban, Zone 1, 2, 3 and Astorga said they have been drawing water from the source for years now and it was only two weeks ago that their children caught typhoid.

Raygene Manuel Madronero, municipal health officer, said while affected villagers were being given medicines, a health team had been sent to the area to conduct water sampling and chlorination of water sources.

He admitted that unless the sampling activities were done, the source of the contamination could not be pinpointed.



DR. FRANCISCO Reyes examines some of the children who manifested symptoms of typhoid fever in one of the private hospitals of Sta. Cruz, Davao del Sur. At least 60 children were admitted for symptoms of typhoid fever in this hospital. ORLANDO DINOY/INQUIRER MINDANAO

Madronero said pending the result of sampling activities, residents should boil the water they drink so that the typhoid-causing bacteria—salmonella typhosa—would be destroyed.

Jean Ubial, Southern Mindanao health director, said the rainy season could have caused the increase in the number of suspected typhoid cases in Sta. Cruz.

The INQUIRER learned that the outbreak was not the first in the town.

In February, at least 89 people caught typhoid in various villages, including the poblacion area.

In nearby Digos City, the rainy season also caused the resurgence of dengue fever, another deadly disease caused by mosquitoes.

Salud de la Cruz, city health officer, said they were constantly monitoring hospitals to determine if the number of dengue patients has increased.

The city health office reported that since January, at least 24 people had already been taken sick by the dengue virus.

De la Cruz said they were also working with village officials to control, if not eradicate, mosquito larva.

She said health officials want to avoid a repeat of the case in 2005, when nearly 500 children had fallen victim to the dengue virus. *Orlando Dinoy, Inquirer Mindanao*

TransCo
National Transmission Corporation
Republic of the Philippines

Section I. Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid

DESIGN, SUPPLY, DELIVERY, TESTING AND TRAINING OF MULTIFUNCTION POWER QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Ref. No.PB070502-PP0067

1. The *NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION, Head Office Region* (TRANSCO-HO) through the *2007 Corporate Budget approved by the TransCo Board* intends to apply the sum of **Php 2,472,000.00** being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for ***PR No. EMD-07-000045619.*** Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening.
2. The TRANSCO-HO now invites Bids from eligible Bidders for the *Design, Supply, Delivery, Testing and Training of Multifunction Power Quality Management System. Delivery of the GOODS is sixty (60) calendar days from acknowledgment of approved Purchase Order. The description of an eligible Bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding* Documents, ITB.
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," and is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to Republic Act 5183 (R.A. 5183) and subject to Commonwealth Act 138 (C.A. 138). Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB. The bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) shall advance to the post-qualification stage in order to finally determine responsiveness of the bid to technical and financial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bidder (LCRB) who was determined as such during the post-qualification procedure.
4. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from ***July 10, 2007 to August 6, 2007*** at the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of ***Php 1,000.00.*** The method of payment will be ***Cash.*** The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.
5. The *TRANSCO-HO* will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on ***July 23, 2007/2:00 P.M.*** at *the address below. Requests for clarifications on the bid documents should be submitted before the Pre-bid Conference.*
6. Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered to the address below on or before ***August 07, 2007/2:00 P.M.*** All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid security in any of the following forms and amount or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency. Late Bids shall not be accepted.

FORM OF SECURITY	AMOUNT
1. Cash, certified check, cashier's check, manager's check, bank draft or irrevocable letter of credit (1% of ABC)	Php 24,720.00
2. Bank Guarantee (1.5% of ABC)	Php 37,080.00
3. Surety Bond (2.5% of ABC)	Php 61,800.00
4. Foreign Government Guarantee (100% of ABC)	Php 2,472,000.00

7. Bid opening shall be on ***August 07, 2007/2:00 P.M.*** at the ***Admin Conference Room same address below.*** Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below.
8. The *National Transmission Corporation* reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

National Transmission Corporation, Head Office Region
Mr. Raul Joseph G. Seludo, BAC Chairman
MMD Office, Ground Floor, TransCo Main Bldg.
Power Center, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. No. (632) 9812207 / Fax No. (632) 9228432
Website: www.transco.ph

(Sgd.) RAUL JOSEPH G. SELUDO
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – July 10, 2007)

First 13 party-list winners proclaimed

From page A1

notified about our own proclamation. This proves once again the Comelec's dismissive and discriminatory attitude toward the party-list system," said Akbayan Rep. Risa Hontiveros in a text message to journalists.

'Party, not nominee'

Explaining why the poll body did not invite the nominees to the proclamation, Comelec Chair Benjamin Abalos Sr. said in a press conference early last night: "It's the party that has been proclaimed and not the nominee."

The Comelec proclaimed those that had already garnered at least 334,462 votes, the equivalent to 2 percent of the projected maximum total party-list votes pegged at 16,723,121.

Only the winning groups' first nominees are recognized at the moment, Abalos said. But he added that it would be safe to say that Buhay, which garnered more than a million votes, bagged three seats.

The Comelec resolution cited the first-party rule, or the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP) formula in determining the additional number of seats for the party-list groups after Buhay. Also known as the Panganiban formula, the VFP formula means that the additional number of seats of a party-list group is pegged on the number of votes of the first, or No. 1, party.

The Supreme Court upheld the formula in April, which was derived from its ruling of the VFP case in October 2000.

VFP formula

Cibac has explained the scheme, through Dr. Felix P. Muga II of the Mathematics Department of the Ateneo de Manila University:

The formula allocates one seat to the parties with at least 2 percent of the total party-list votes. The additional number of seats is computed by dividing the number of votes of the concerned party by the number of votes of the first party. The quotient is multiplied by the additional number of seats of the first party.

The integer part or the whole part of this computation is the additional number of seats of the concerned party.

The Supreme Court refers to the "first party" as the party-list group that obtained the highest votes in the party-list election. The first party has one additional seat if it garnered at least 4 percent but less than 6 percent of the total number of party-list votes, or it has two additional seats if it obtained at least 6 percent of the total number of party-list votes.

The formula imposes a three-seat cap consistent with the provision of the Party-List System Act, or Republic Act No. 7941.

Colmenares told reporters yesterday that Bayan Muna will ask the Supreme Court to declare the first party rule unconstitutional.

Various party-list organizations had been asking the Comelec to proclaim those that had already reached the 2-percent threshold. They stressed that the marginalized sectors had become "disenfranchised" in the 14th Congress, which has begun important activities such as the selection of the next Speaker.

Buhay factions

Even if it was already assured of three seats in the House, Buhay still has to contend with a problem of which of its two factions will represent the group.

"Only the Commission on Elections, acting as a court of law, can decide on that matter and there can only be one decision—either they grant our petition or the other group's petition," Buhay Rep. Hans Christian Señeres told the INQUIRER by phone yesterday.

Two sets of nominees have been submitted to the Comelec. Buhay president Mel Robles, an El Shaddai leader who heads the Light Rail Transit Authority, sent one list naming Rene Velarde, son of the Catholic charismatic movement's top personality Bro. Mariano "Mike" Velarde, Ma. Carissa Coscolluela, William Irwin Tieng, Melchor Monsod and Teresita Villarama.

The other list was submitted by Señeres, Buhay acting secretary general who represented the group in the 13th Congress together with the young Velarde. Robles, he noted, was already considered resigned when he forwarded his own set of nominees before the elections.

When asked if he was willing to accept or offer an amicable settlement with Robles' group, Señeres said: "The party-list law is very strict, we can't just change the nominees even if someone asks for a negotiation."

He said the Comelec could not even offer such idea because it was not a mediation board.

But Señeres was optimistic that it will uphold his list of nominees composed of himself, Hermenigildo Dumlao, Antonio Bautista, Victor Pablo Trinidad and Eduardo Solangon Jr.

'Better late than never'

In a press statement, detained Anakpawis Rep. Crispin Beltran, the group's first nominee, was relieved over the Comelec's announcement and called for the immediate formal proclamation and swearing in of the winners.

"Better late than never. There have been strong suspicions that the Comelec has been deliberately sitting on the results of the party-list polls and delaying the announcement of winners in acquiescence to some scheme of Malacañang and the National Security Council to deny the progressive party-lists Bayan Muna, Anakpawis and Gabriela Women's Party (GWP) of their hard-earned victory," said Beltran.

"The Comelec should immediately expedite the process of the swearing in the nominees of the winning party-lists. No time should be wasted. There has been too much delay already. We fought long and hard for our victory, and it's an insult against our members and supporters that we have yet to be proclaimed," he added.

The proclamation of the party-list group Batas was deferred pending the Comelec's resolution of a petition to cancel its registration.

The list of proclaimed winners will be forwarded to the House of Representatives.

Activism, media serve ex-Polish president well

From page A1

regime and then became president after the collapse of communism in Poland.

Addressing more than 100 students from Ateneo and other colleges and universities, as well as academics and professionals, Kwasniewski, 53, said: "My future life and political activity have been greatly influenced not only by my student affiliations but also by my work as editor in chief of a youth magazine and a youth daily. I treated my journalism work as something much more concrete than politics."

Born in 1954, Kwasniewski studied economics at Gdansk University and graduated in 1977. He was chair of the University Council of the Socialist Union of Polish Students.

After college, he edited the youth magazine "ITD" and the youth daily "Sztandar Mlodych" in the early 1980s. He also published the first computer magazine "Bajtek" that, he said, gave the Polish youth access to new instruments of knowledge and technology. His journalistic experience also helped him when he became president of the Polish Olympic Committee, minister of Youth Affairs and chair of the Committee for Youth and Physical Culture.

As a journalist, Kwasniewski said, he and his colleagues promoted honesty while accepting realities and understanding and searching for changes in Polish society. His contact with the press, Kwasniewski added, would later be of great help in his political life.

FORMER Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski tells the audience at Ateneo that "historical changes could be achieved not through confrontation but through dialogue." Flanking him during the 2nd Ateneo Manuel V. Pangilinan Annual Leadership Forum held at the Henry Lee Irwin Theater in Quezon City are PLDT Chair Manny Pangilinan (left) and Ateneo de Manila president Fr. Bienvenido Nebres. EDWIN BACASMAS

Different ball game

Politics, he learned, was a different ball game. The first serious political challenge for him came in the late 1980s. "Being in the government, I realized that after the martial law period, there was no future for the ruling Polish United Worker's Party."

The communist-run state was coming to an end. "We had to find a political accommodation with the strong and popular Solidarity movement. The alternative was bloodshed and the destruction of my country which would have great and negative repercussions on the whole of Europe. [With] this in mind, I joined other like-minded party activists and pressed for quick political changes," he said stressing the importance of compromise.

Kwasniewski became the leader of a reformist faction within the party and the government that understood the importance of peaceful solutions. "We approached Solidarity leaders and influential Catholic Church representatives and organized an unprecedented conference in the early spring of 1989."

That event was the Round Table Conference that included representatives of Solidarity, the government, the Church and people of good will.

First challenge

Coming from the government side, Kwasniewski said he had to rise above "natural differences and justified grievances of Solidarity delegates." Solidarnosc, at that time, had become a movement to watch especially because it was openly backed by Pope John Paul II. Walesa, its leader, would later win the Nobel Peace Prize.

Describing himself as an agnostic, Kwasniewski said he had met with Pope John Paul II many times.

He was convinced that the negotiating parties all wanted to save Poland from disaster and "start democratic reforms much stronger than political differences and former hostilities."

The changes in Poland were part of the domino effect in Eastern and Central Europe that saw the fall of the Berlin wall, the "velvet revolution in Czechoslovakia, and transformations in Hungary, Bulgaria, Rumania and the Baltic States and the disintegration of the Soviet Union."

Through all these, Kwasniewski said, only Poland retained its old geographical borders.

Second challenge

The second challenge was how to establish a party that could represent the left of Polish society after the dissolution of the communist-influenced Polish United Workers Party. "I had to work very hard to move beyond our communist past and prove that our party is a modern European social democratic organization with the broad support of the Polish electorate."

In 1990, Kwasniewski founded the Social Democratic Party. The Democratic Left Alliance came to be and won the majority in parliament. In 1995, Kwasniewski defeated Walesa and became President of Poland.

He worked to have Poland admitted to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Nato) and the European Union.

Ateneo University President Bienvenido Nebres said Kwasniewski's campaign slogans for his first term—"Let us choose the future" and "A Poland for all Poles"—and his second term's "A home for all-Poland" were visions that resonated with Filipinos.

Dialogue

"We also seek to move the Philippines toward the future and dream of building a Philippines for Filipinos," the Ateneo president said.

Nebres met Kwasniewski at Georgetown University where the former Polish president is a Distinguished Scholar in the Practice of Global Leadership.

The annual Ateneo MVP (Manuel V. Pangilinan) Leadership Forum seeks to bring leaders who can share their experience of leadership in this world of both ancient and new hungers, Nebres said. "And to dialogue with our students, future leaders of our country and perhaps in the region and the world."

After his talk, Kwasniewski fielded questions from students and teachers. His wife, Jolanta, a lawyer, later joined him on stage to answer some questions.

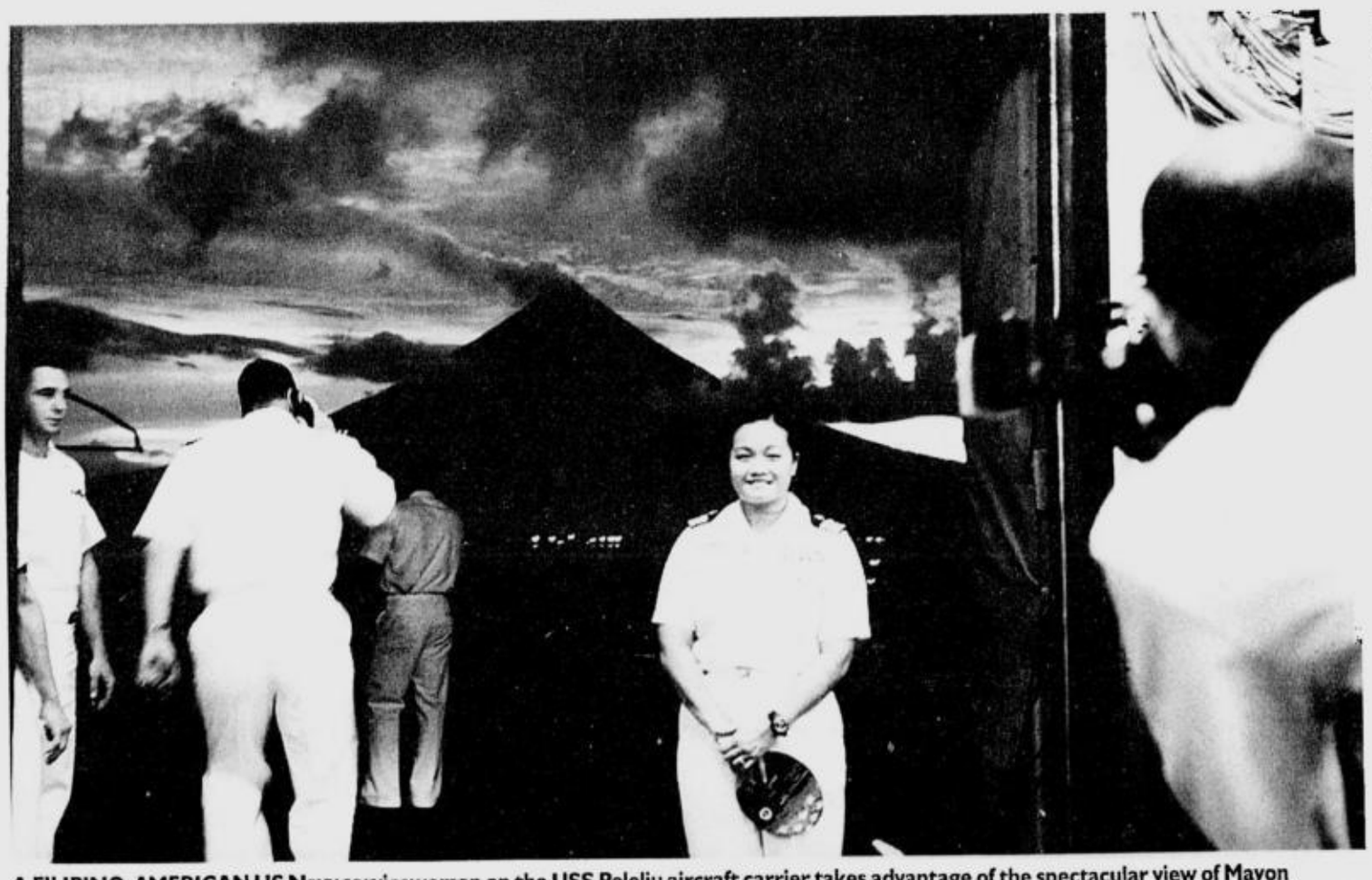
Fil-Am sailors on US warship help rebuild Bicol

From page A1

"I bring anything I can—food, candies and stuff to give to kids ... and they're all happy. Normally, whenever we go out, I have a backpack with me and then just give away [goodies]. It's the kids I love seeing. They're the ones that need help the most," said Bernardino, whose two children with his Filipino wife are back home in San Diego.

"It's a good thing we did this. I've been away for so long and, you know, you don't really see this. I'm just so glad I'm part of the ship. When you go to [a] hospital and you help out your *kababayan, nakaka*-touch. You can feel it, really ... *Kailangan nila ng tulong* (They need help)," said the officer while on a break from the Fourth of July reception on board the Peleliu on Wednesday night.

In her 20 years in the Navy, pharmacy technician Joanna Miclat had never joined a mission to her homeland. That was why upon learning about the Peleliu's trip to Southeast Asia, port-based Miclat jumped at the chance to go home and volunteered.



A FILIPINO-AMERICAN US Navy servicewoman on the USS Peleliu aircraft carrier takes advantage of the spectacular view of Mayon Volcano in the background for a souvenir photo. The US warship went to Albay to deliver relief goods. US Navy personnel also went ashore to render humanitarian work. EDWIN BACASMAS

Rewarding feeling

"When I found out, I said I had to go because I wanted to see my *kababayan* ... It's a very rewarding feeling. It's a privilege to give back to those who are in need ... I know how it is because I grew up in a poor family," said the 46-year-old Miclat.

"It feels so good that I'm representing the US and the Philippines at the same time. I'm so proud of being a Filipino and proud that I'm with the US [Navy] because we're doing good things for our *kababayan*," said the pharmacist, who has a brother also in the service.

Before its Bicol stop, the Peleliu dropped off an 11-member medical team that included Miclat to conduct medical missions for communities in Cotabato, Tawi-Tawi and Jolo.

Ahead of schedule

"The people were kinda surprised and amazed that there's a Filipina in the US Navy. They didn't know we existed. They were so happy," said Miclat, smiling at the recollection.

Leo Estremadura, 46, was among the sailors who helped build 35 homes for typhoon victims at a relocation site in Barangay Anislag, Daraga, Albay. His group worked from June 26 until this week, to speed up the construction of new houses for evacuees from the typhoon-ravaged Barangay Malubago, also in Daraga.

"I'm really glad that I was given the opportunity to help out," said the Sorsogon native, who joined the US Navy in 1985.

35 new homes

And thanks to their humanitarian efforts, a new batch of families will move into permanent shelters on July 18, a month ahead of schedule.

More than 50 US sailors worked with Filipino soldiers and locals for two weeks to finish 35 houses on the transition site, a government-loaned lot administered by the Daughters of Charity, Sisters of St. Vincent de Paul, a group of nuns who adopted 330 families displaced from the devastated Barangay Malubago.

"These young folks, they wanna be able to do something that is important. Being able to see their impact [on the community] means a lot to them. And so they learn and willingly do it and look forward to doing it," said US Navy Vice Admiral Douglas Crowder, commander of the US Pacific Fleet, in an interview on board the Peleliu last week.

"Without their help, the houses would be finished on Aug. 15. But with their help, the houses were finished a month early," said Mercelin Galicia from the Daughters of Charity.

Galicia said that 35 families who are most in need of permanent housing out of the hundreds still living in tents will get keys to their own homes next week. Of the 330 families or 1,298 residents displaced from Barangay Malubago, 52 had already transferred to their new homes.

Megaworld
is the
No. 1
Philippine Company
at the

FinanceAsia

Best-managed Asian Companies
Survey in 2007

MEGAWORLD

Ranked No. 1

Best-managed Company

MEGAWORLD

Ranked No. 1

Most Committed to Corporate Governance

MEGAWORLD

Ranked No. 1

Best Investor Relations

Thank You

to all investors and analysts in the region
who voted Megaworld No. 1.

MEGAWORLD

www.megaworldcorp.com

ISO 9001:2000 CERTIFIED

A Member of:

ALLIANCE GLOBAL

28/F The World Centre, 330 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City, Philippines • Tels: (632) 867-8826 to 40 • Fax: (632) 867-8247
E-mail: infodesk@megaworldcorp.com

Aplus METRO

Website: www.inquirer.net/metro

Editor Ester G. Dipasupil

Text us your feedback: inquirer met name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) E-mail: pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph

Trader found dead in condo positive for powder burns

Gun near body could have been sold to victim

By Kristine L. Alave

JOSE REYES, THE SON-IN-LAW OF MINDORO Occidental Rep. Amelita Villarosa, has tested positive for powder burns, while the five others who were in the condominium unit before and after his body was found, were found to be negative.

A top police investigator privy to the case confirmed the paraffin test findings yesterday, fueling speculations that the businessman killed himself.

The prober, who requested anonymity as the victim's family had requested the police not to release details of Reyes' death until after the funeral, said the police is still treating the case as a suicide.

The conclusive findings of the investigation is expected to be released after two days, the official added.

Asked to comment on the case, Eastern Police District director, Chief Supt. Luizo Ticman, said they could not yet release details of the investigation.

Citing laboratory results, the investigator said Bernard de Venecia, 36, a relative of Pangasinan Rep. Jose de Venecia and the owner of the condominium unit where Reyes' body was found; along with his house help, Marivic Villa, 40; his driver, Ruel Jamosmos, 41; Jose Palma, 51; and messenger Jon-Jon Salvador, 22; all tested negative for powder burns. The police official added that they are still tracing the ownership of the .9 mm pistol found near Reyes' body.

Police said the gun was previously owned by Michael Dy, who allegedly sold it to the victim in 2000. The official said they are waiting for Dy to present the deed of sale for the firearm.

Reyes' body was found Wednesday night at De Venecia's condominium unit in Pasig City at about 9:30 p.m. Police said Reyes was a frequent visitor at the house. Autopsy results revealed that he died of a single gunshot wound in the neck which exited through his head.

Closure of Payatas dump expected this year

By Margaux C. Ortiz

THE QUEZON CITY GOVERNMENT plans to shut down the Payatas "controlled dump" within the year, and has started looking for an area where it could put up a sanitary landfill.

"We submitted a closure plan to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources last year and they have given us the authority to do so," Frederika Rentoy, head of the city's Environmental Protection and Waste Management Department, told the INQUIRER yesterday.

She made the announcement a day before the seventh anniversary today of the Payatas garbage slide. Over 200 people were killed when a portion of the 30-hectare, 50-foot high dump collapsed on July 10, 2000, burying hundreds of shanties. Residents in the area will hold a candlelighting ceremony and offers prayers and flowers to those who were killed in the incident.

According to Rentoy, the plan required the city government to make sure that people living in the area would be relocated. Plants and trees should also be planted in the former dump.

"We expect the closure to be within this year, but it will all depend on the DENR's evaluation," Rentoy added.

The city official said that they are now looking for a place where they could build a sanitary landfill to replace the dump which has to be closed down in accordance with Republic Act No. 9003 or The Ecological Solid Waste Management Act. "It is hard to look for a possible sanitary landfill site because of the prevalent 'not in my backyard attitude,'" Rentoy said, adding that they are considering Clark in Pampanga or Rodriguez, Rizal.

Rentoy stressed that while the city government is working toward implementing the reusing and recycling of garbage at the barangay level, it was not easy to achieve a "zero waste scenario."

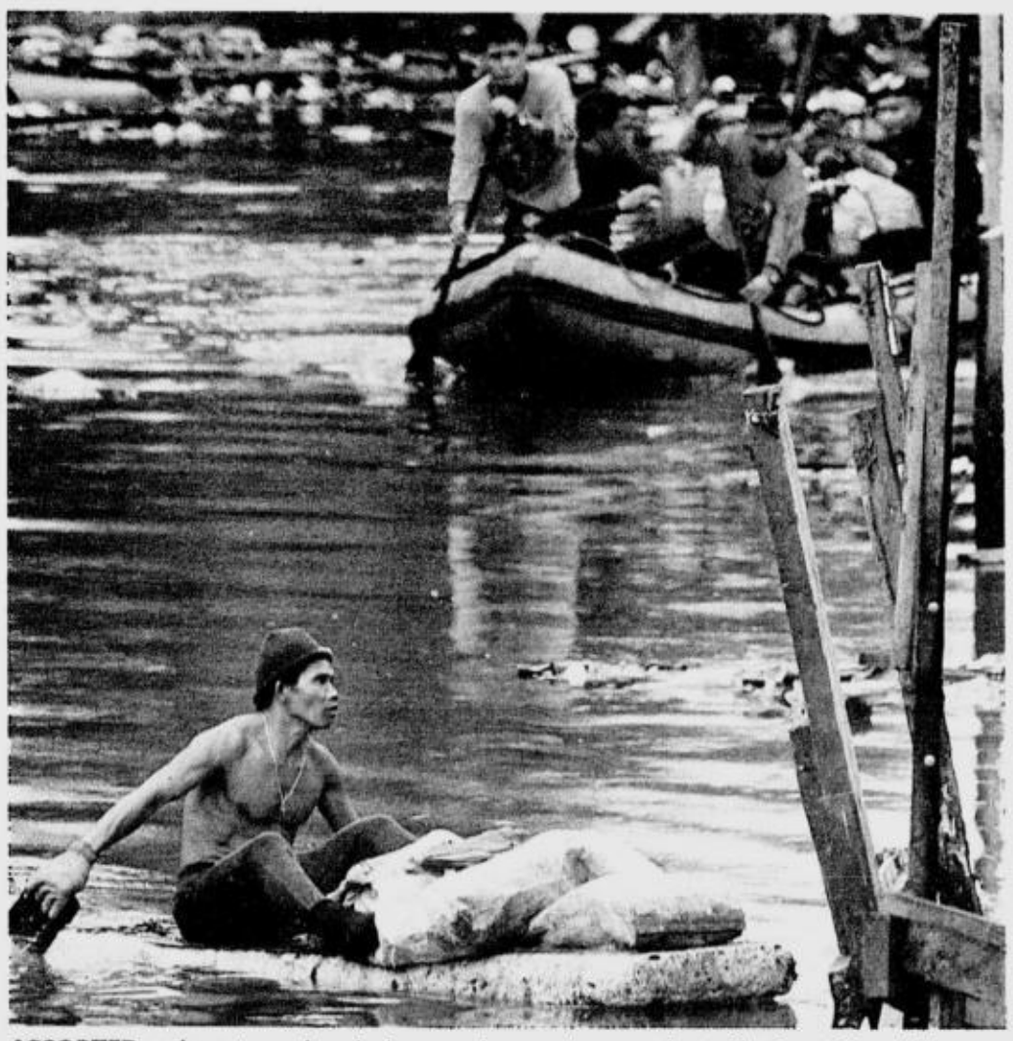
She explained that 13 percent of all wastes are residual or nonrecyclable, such as sanitary napkins and diapers.

"We have actually accomplished something in diverting 30 percent of waste from the dump by recycling them," Rentoy said, adding that of the 1,300 tons of garbage generated by the city every day, only 1,200 tons end up in Payatas.

The city official explained that sanitary landfills actually have antipollution devices such as leachate (garbage juice) collection pans and plastic liners to prevent the leachate from penetrating the soil and the groundwater.

Rentoy also clarified that they have not yet started evicting families living near the dump. She added that families affected could avail of the city's "*balik-probinsya* (back to the province) program."

Joey Papa of Bangon Kalikasan Movement, an environmental group, said earlier that operations in Payatas and about 1,000 "open" and "controlled" dumps in the country is illegal.



ASSORTED garbage turned up during search operations conducted by Coast Guard divers yesterday, but no bodies were found in the foul-smelling creek. EDWIN BACASMAS

Divers fail to recover bodies allegedly dumped in Quiapo creek

By Tina G. Santos

A TEAM OF DIVERS FROM THE PHILIPPINE Coast Guard yesterday searched the creek in Quiapo's notorious—and recently demolished—"Little Vietnam" for bodies allegedly dumped into its murky waters, but found nothing.

The search and retrieval operations began at 6 a.m. with divers scouring the 20-meter long and 7-feet deep body of water.

According to P02 Jun Alviar of the Barbosa Police Community Precinct, the Coast Guard team decided to end the search three hours later after no bodies were found.

"We had difficulty scouring the creek because there was a lot of trash. It was also dark underwater, with almost zero visibility. There were many obstructions," one of the divers said. He added that their movements were also limited because of the wooden stilts underwater which served as the foundation for shanties in the area that were demolished last week.

The demolition was ordered by Manila Mayor Alfredo Lim after the area gained notoriety for the killings and alleged illegal drug activities.

The area on Arlegui Street reportedly got its tag in the 1970s during the Vietnam War.

"Little Vietnam" figured in the news last month following the discovery of two dead women in a drum filled with cement. The victims, who were stabbed to death, were reportedly killed over drugs. The decomposing body of an unidentified man was also found floating in a creek in the area the following week.

DID YOU KNOW

ON JULY 10, 2000, a portion of the Payatas dump in Quezon City collapsed and buried thousands of houses, killing over 200 people who made a living by sorting through and recycling garbage. In 2004, the Quezon City government erected a memorial marker to remember those who perished in the tragedy.

Source: Inquirer Archives; Kate Pedroso, Inquirer Research

Looking for Project Funding?

Join the *WINNING GRANT PROPOSAL WRITING SEMINAR*, July 25, 2007, Richville Hotel, 286 EDSA, Mandaluyong City, 8am-5pm. Topics: Overview of Logical Framework Analysis; Techniques, trends & best practices; Preparing solid budgets; Know where to source project funding, technical assistance & in-kind donation; Project sustainability; Strategies in crafting winning proposals. Speakers: Pilipinas Shell Foundation; Kalinga Day Care; Tritium Knowledge Center Publishing (TKCP). Get Early Bird/group discount. To register, call TKCP: 531-0084, 578-9833, 0919-229-9777; 0919-229-9780; 0915-780-4379 or email: tritium@pldtdsl.net or tkcp_ph@yahoo.com. Limited seats only. Register Now!

EAR DIAGNOSTICS
HEARING AID CENTER

PREMIER-PLUS
Wireless HEARING SOLUTIONS

SOUNDS FAMILIAR?
* Requiring frequent repetition of words
* Having difficulty following conversations
* Turning up the volume of TV, Radio or stereo
* Misinterpreting spoken language

If your answer is YES for the above questions, you may have a HEARING PROBLEM.

FROST & SULLIVAN

CONTACT YOUR HEARING AID CONSULTANT NOW !!!

Hearing Aids from Siemens Medical Instruments

Branches:

MANILA
Rm. 505 Don Santiago Bldg.
Taft Ave, In front of UP-PGH
Tel: (02) 536-7772

CEBU
Rm. 703 Golden Peak Tower,
Gorordo Ave., Cor. Escario
Tel No: (032) 233-4388

ILOILO
Grd Flr. Health Partners
AJL Bldg.Gen. Luna Ibarra St.
Tel: (033) 335-0566

LAS PINAS
LGF SM Southmall-Las Pinas
Near Ice Skating Rink

VISIT US AT THE
"Beauty and Wellness Fair" by SM SOUTHMALL
UPPER GROUND FLR.,FROM JULY 9- JULY 12 2007
FREE HEARING CHECK UP !

CFO of the Year

SEARCH

Send in your nominations now!
Nomination forms are available at the FINEX Secretariat or can be downloaded via the FINEX website www.finex.org.ph

ING CFO OF THE YEAR AWARD

Our co-presenters:

FINEX RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION, INC.

CFA PHILIPPINES

rafei

ASIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT GOV. JOSE B. FERNANDEZ, JR. CENTER FOR BANKING AND FINANCE

Our media partners:

INQUIRER

BusinessWorld www.bworldonline.com

THE PHILIPPINE STAR

Dismantling of giant billboards to resume soon–DPWH

By Margaux C. Ortiz

THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC Works and Highways yesterday said it would resume the dismantling of billboards in Metro Manila and other parts of the country with the onset of the typhoon season.

Cathy Cabral, DPWH director for planning, said Public Works Secretary Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. had announced in a staff meeting last week that the agency would immediately start tearing down billboards proven to be potential road hazards, as well as other structures that encroach on the road right-of-way.

"Secretary Ebdane announced that after a short lull in the dismantling operations in the past few months, the agency would again begin its intensive campaign against illegal billboards," Cabral said in a forum in Quezon City.

"Oversized billboards, especially those with no permits, will be removed immediately to prevent accidents on the streets," she added.

The DPWH and the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority have been dismantling billboards pursuant to President Macapagal-Arroyo's administrative order that calls for the removal of billboards located on the road right-of-way, in violation of the National Building Code, or are built without the proper permits and thus pose a risk to public safety.

At the height of Typhoon "Milenyo" in September last year, several giant billboards collapsed, killing a man and injuring several others. This prompted Ms Arroyo to order the DPWH to inspect all billboards in the country and take down those found to be violating the National Building Code.

According to the DPWH, most of the dismantled billboards were located on Metro Manila's main thoroughfares and the Metro Rail Transit line.

Ebdane earlier ordered a study into the possibility of requiring billboard owners to get a clearance from DPWH district engineers before they can be issued any building or sign permit by local governments. This, he said, would ensure that no structures would rise on national roads in the future without the department's go-signal.

Caroline was there, but where was MJ?

By Julie M. Aurelio

FORMER MANILA CONGRESSman Mark Jimenez was a no-show at yesterday's preliminary conference in a Taguig City Regional Trial Court on his former live-in partner's petition for a permanent protection order.

The judge handling the case earlier ordered Jimenez and Carol Castañeda to both be present at the proceedings.

Castañeda, however, was in court yesterday where she was expected to press for the issuance of an order permanently barring Jimenez from seeing her.

Both parties and their lawyers are not allowed to talk about the case because of a gag order issued by Judge Lorifel Pahinma of the Taguig City RTC Branch 69. Pahinma used to handle the case before she inhibited herself. The case has been raffled off to Judge Leili Cruz-Suarez of Branch 163.

Jimenez's lawyer, Bobby Miranda, said his client was ill. "He was really supposed to attend," Miranda added.

But Virgilio Crespo, Jimenez's son, told reporters that he did not think his father would be present.

"He's been defying the protection order ever since. He is still in Essensa (Jimenez's house) and has refused to accept the order," Crespo said.

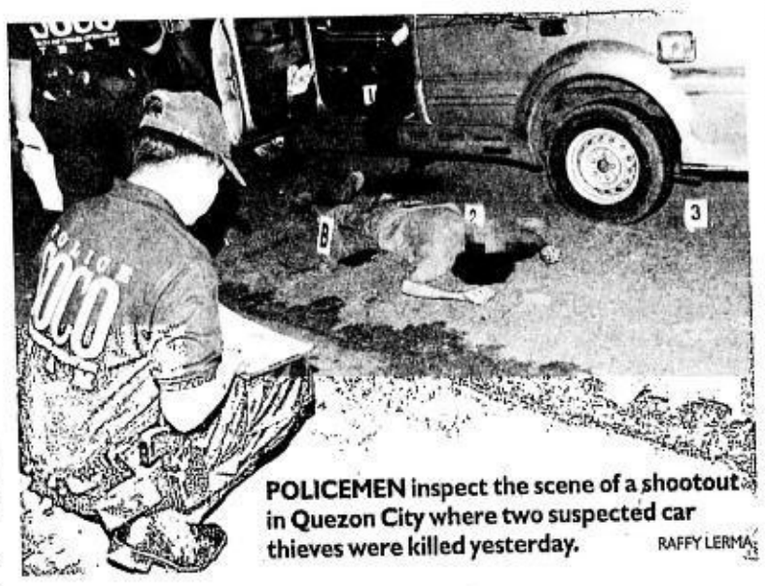
On June 28, some police officers went to the Essensa Towers in Fort Bonifacio to serve the temporary protection order the court had granted to Castañeda. Jimenez, however, refused to receive the order.

The preliminary conference will continue on July 13 but this time, the presence of both Castañeda and Jimenez are no longer required.

"Carol's safety is tantamount. Her movements are restricted," Crespo said.

In May, agents of the National Bureau of Investigation rescued Castañeda from Silvercrest Foundation, a drug rehab facility in Las Piñas City, where she was held for several days.

According to her, Jimenez ordered her abduction to keep her from testifying in the permanent protection case she had filed against him. Jimenez, however, claimed that Castañeda was a drug addict in need of rehabilitation.



POLICEMEN inspect the scene of a shootout in Quezon City where two suspected car thieves were killed yesterday. RAFFY LERMA

2 men die in shootout with Quezon City cops

By Jeannette I. Andrade

TWO MEN WERE KILLED IN AN alleged shootout with policemen before dawn yesterday on Commonwealth Avenue in Quezon City.

One of the fatalities was Danilo Enriquez, a resident of Sumpang Matanda, Malolos City. He was identified through a police clearance certificate found in his wallet. The other suspect, who was wearing a red polo shirt, denim pants and a pair of black slippers, has yet to be identified.

A report of the Quezon City Police District said that the incident happened at 1:15 a.m. on Commonwealth Avenue in front of the University of the Philippines Atomic Center.

Members of the QCPD District Police Intelligence Operations Unit Special Intelligence Action Service led by Supt. Alexander Sintin were on routine patrol against suspected robbery groups when they spotted a gold Mitsubishi Adventure with no license plates bound for Elliptical Road.

The policemen flagged down the vehicle for inspection but the driver of the van stepped on the gas, leading to a chase.

The report said the occupants of the Adventure fired first on the policemen, who were forced to shoot back. The two suspects were hit and died on the spot.

Policemen later found empty shells for automatic rifles and .45 caliber pistols at the crime scene and a pair of license plates (XAX 854). Recovered from one of the slain men was a caliber .38 revolver with four live ammunition.

According to a police report, the gold Mitsubishi Adventure was stolen in Bulacan. It was registered in the name of Violeta Tejuco.

Protesters may go ahead with Friday rally

By Allison W. Lopez

AS IF TO SHOW WHO'S THE boss, Manila Mayor Alfredo Lim yesterday "modified" the permit to rally of Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) from July 13, a Friday, to July 14, a Saturday—in keeping with his earlier statement allowing rallies at the historical bridge only on weekends and holidays.

Bayan secretary-general Renato Reyes Jr. said moving the date meant, in effect, that the mayor had denied their application to assemble on Friday.

"We will question his decision because the approved permit did not show evidence on 'clear and present danger,' which could be the only basis for denying or modifying a permit," said Reyes, citing Batas Pambansa No. 880, the act that guarantees the right to assemble peacefully.

Lim announced earlier that he was limiting the rallies at Mendiola so as not to inconvenience students and motorists. On Sunday, only a few supporters of deposed President Estrada attended the first approved rally at the bridge since Lim assumed office.

Secretary to the mayor Rafaelito Garayblas, who signed the permit, justified the move transferring the rally to a weekend, saying it was the "right of the state to enforce peace and order. They (activists) should look at the side of the students and commuters.

Adding that the ralliers could still go to other areas "as long as they do not obstruct traffic," Garayblas said the move did not curtail Bayan's "freedom to express their views."

Reyes said they wanted to speak to the mayor before he decided on the permit, but they were not given time to do so.

The secretary general of the activist group said they were planning to push through with the mass action on Friday.

He previously said the gathering would not bother students since it would be held during classes from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Lim's refusal to grant ralliers access to Mendiola Bridge on Friday, added Reyes, also "did not look good" since it came after the mayor's recent meeting with President Macapagal-Arroyo. The mayor assured her that he would not allow chaos in areas close to Malacañang until 2010.

METROBRIEFS

Police charge cohort

THE EASTERN Police District has filed kidnapping and homicide charges against Ruel Manalili, the alleged accomplice of Jayson Noriega, the man who confessed to killing his 3-year-old daughter last week. EPD director, Chief Supt. Luizo Ticman, told reporters yesterday said they have submitted the charges against Manalili to the Pasig City Prosecutor's Office. The police filed parricide raps against Noriega on Friday after he confessed to investigators that he kidnapped and stabbed his daughter to death. He later dumped her body in a man-made creek in Meralco Avenue, Pasig City, where it was found on June 30, two days after the girl was reported missing. In interviews, Manalili said he had no idea that Noriega kidnapped his daughter, adding that he was only trying to help the latter. But Ticman said there was sufficient evidence that Manalili, alias Ugo, was involved in the plan to kidnap the girl.

Kristine L. Alave

Open to vehicles again

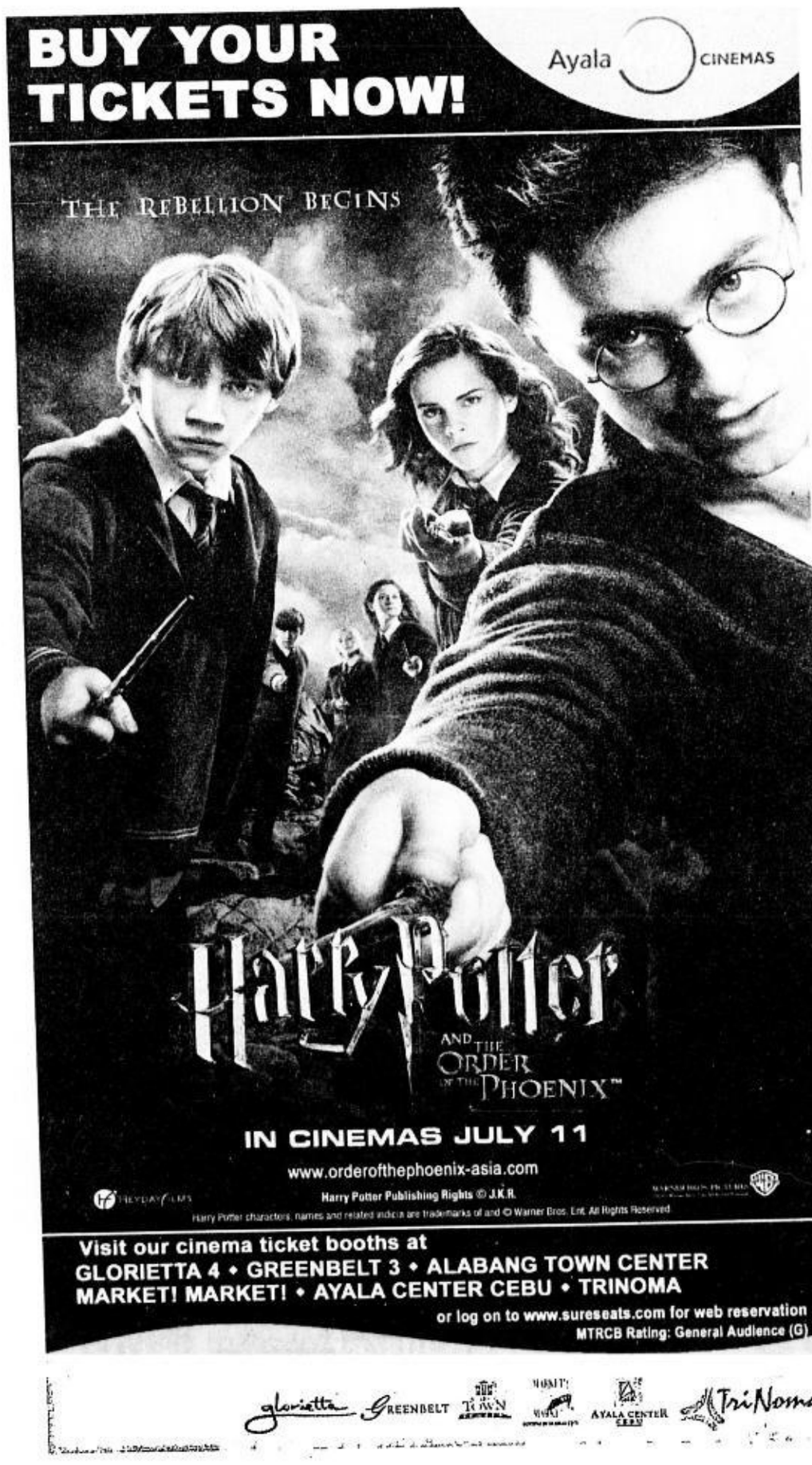
THE "PEDESTRIANIZED" portion of Avenida Rizal in Sta. Cruz, Manila, will be opened to vehicular traffic starting this weekend, Mayor Alfredo Lim announced yesterday. "The work is now two-thirds complete. We'll be ready to open it by Saturday or Sunday," Lim said at the weekly Kapihan sa Maynila forum at the Manila Hotel. Armand Andres of the City Engineer's Office earlier said it would take at least a month before the area could be opened to traffic because all the tiles from the corner of Claro M. Recto Avenue to Carriedo Street would have to be removed first before the road could be paved with asphalt. The area was closed to vehicles in 2003 based on a resolution approved by the Manila City Council.

Tina G. Santos

Messenger killed

TWO MOTORCYCLE-RIDING men killed and robbed a gasoline station messenger yesterday morning in Quezon City. The suspects were able to escape with the weekend earnings of the Shell Gasoline Station at the corner of E. Rodriquez Avenue and Judge Jimenez Street in Barangay Kristong Hari, New Manila. Alvin Garcia, 31, of Cubao, Quezon City, was about to take the undetermined amount of money to a bank when he was robbed.

Jeannette I. Andrade



Hearings vs shabu witness moved to Cebu

By Kristine L. Alave

THE SUPREME COURT THIRD DIVISION has ordered the transfer of the kidnapping and murder case against witness Samer Palao to Cebu City from Manila, a move that could disrupt the hearings of the government's cases against alleged drug lord Amin Imam Boratong.

The charges against Palao were filed in June 2006 by the family of Boratong's wife, Memie, who accused him of killing her brother.

The High Court's ruling came after the defense in Palao's case filed a petition for a change in venue, a move opposed by the Philippine National Police. The case was originally set to be heard in Cagayan de Oro City.

According to the PNP, Palao's life would be in danger if he sets foot in Mindanao, where Boratong allegedly wields a lot of influence. Boratong's lawyer, however, has denied this.

Last May, the Supreme Court denied the defense's motion to transfer the case to Mindanao and instead directed it to the Manila Regional Trial Court, where it was raffled off to the sala of Judge Aida Rangel-Roque.

In its resolution dated June 25, the tribunal's Third Division denied the petition for the case to be moved back to Cagayan de Oro for "lack of merit," but granted a change in venue.

It directed "the Branch Clerk of Court, Regional Trial Court, Manila to immediately forward the records of Criminal Case 5033-06 to the Executive Judge, Regional Trial Court, Cebu City, for raffle among the judges thereat."

In an interview with the media yesterday, Eastern Police District director, Chief Supt. Luizo Ticman, said they agreed with the ruling as long as Palao remains under police custody.

He added that they would also ask the high tribunal to allow Palao to complete his testimony against Boratong in the Pasig City Regional Trial Court before transferring him to Cebu City.

This will ensure that the cases against Boratong would not be interrupted, Ticman added.

Palao claims he served as the right hand of Boratong, whom he had tagged as the alleged maintainer of the Pasig shabu supermarket dismantled by police operatives in a raid last year.

Trillanes, Jalosjos: What is sauce for the goose . . .

ON TARGE

Ramon Tulfo

I DISAGREE WITH MY NEWSPAPER'S stand that Antonio Trillanes IV should be allowed to attend Senate sessions and committee meetings to serve his mandate as senator of the Republic (*Read yesterday's* INQUIRER *editorial*).

If Zamboanga del Norte Rep. Romeo Jalosjos was not allowed to attend sessions and committee meetings at the House, why should the rule be reversed to favor Trillanes?

What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander.

* * *

If the argument is that 11 million Filipinos voted for Trillanes while only a few hundred thousand voted for Jalosjos, does that mean that a congressman is considered lower in category than a senator just because the former is elected locally while the latter is chosen nationally?

Remember, both congressman and senator are national legislators.

If, on the other hand, the contention is that Trillanes has not yet been convicted while Jalosjos had been convicted when he was elected congressman, the rebuttal is that Jalosjos' conviction was on appeal at that time and was not yet final.

* * *

The impasse can be resolved by having the Makati Regional Trial Court fast-track the trial of Trillanes on a charge of attempted coup.

If he is found not guilty, then he should be released immediately.

And if he is found guilty, then he can appeal his case but he should still stay in jail while the appeal is being heard, like what happened to Jalosjos.

* * *

Trillanes has filed two bills in the Senate seeking to increase the pay of soldiers who, he says, have put their lives on the line to protect "our people, our institutions and our democratic way of life."

I have no argument with Trillanes on increasing the pay of soldiers, but why not also increase the salaries of policemen and public schoolteachers?

Cops also risk their lives in protecting the citizenry, while our public schoolteachers mold the country's future leaders.

* * *

Here are some pieces of information that the public might want to know about the detention of Trillanes et. al by the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

1. At the height of the search for Gringo Honasan (elected senator for the second time), Trillanes was a "special guest" at the christening party of the first-born son of Capt. James Layug and his wife Aimee.

2. The party was held at the official function room of Isafp officers called "Sampaguita Lounge" inside the restricted compound of the Isafp, Camp Aguinaldo.

3. The date of the christening party: Dec. 23, 2005.

4. The party was serenaded with music exclusively played by the Isafp band.

5. The food served at the party was catered by Teriyaki Boy restaurant.

6. The bill amounted to P36,000 more or less.

7. MIG (Military Intelligence Group) 21 took pictures of the entire event.

8. Fellow mutineers Captains Gerardo Gambala and Milo Maestrecampo, who both apologized to President Macapagal-Arroyo, did not attend the party.

9. That was not the first party Trillanes and his group had while detained at the Isafp detention center. Other events like Christmas and birthdays were celebrated at the Kitanlad Hall inside the Isafp compound.

Bomber kills 23 Iraqis; weekend toll rises to 250

IRAQIS inspect destruction at the site of a truck bomb blast in the village of Ermeli near the oil-rich city of Kirkuk, northern Iraq, on July 8. AFP

BAGHDAD—A SUICIDE BOMBER killed 23 Iraqi recruits hours after they joined the Army when he rammed a truck into their vehicle near Baghdad on Sunday, in one of wave of attacks that killed 250 people over the weekend.

The bloodiest attack came on Saturday, when a truck packed with explosives covered with hay blew up in a crowded market in the northern town of Tuz Khurmato, killing 150 people and wounding 250.

In the wake of the weekend carnage, Sunni Vice President Tarek al-Hashemi said Iraqis had the right to take up arms to protect themselves.

"The citizen has the right to be protected by the government and the security apparatus ... but when there are failures there is no alternative or there is no escape but for people to defend themselves," Hashemi said in a statement.

He said the state should supply "money, weapons and experience" for such security measures but keep control of them.

The surge in bombings comes despite a major US-backed offensive that has focused largely on Baghdad and provinces around the capital.

The offensive has driven many militants out of Baghdad to areas where the troop presence is lighter.

US officials blame most big bombings on al-Qaida in Iraq, which they say is trying to trigger full-scale civil war between majority Shiites and minority Sunni Arabs.

Police and Army officials said the bomber who targeted the recruits drove into a truck carrying the young Sunni Arab men to Baghdad just after they had joined the Army in western Anbar province. They said 27 recruits were wounded in the attack near the town of Haswa.

Sunni Arab tribal leaders in Anbar have rounded up thousands of men to join local security forces to fight Sunni Islamist al-Qaida, in anger at the militant group's indiscriminate killings of civilians and harsh interpretation of Islam.

Two car bombs killed eight people in Baghdad, police added.

Police said they also found 29 bodies in Baghdad on Sunday.

Most had been shot, victims of sectarian death squads. Figures compiled by Reuters showed nearly 250 people were killed in violence over the weekend.

In the northern Shiite town of Tuz Khurmato, 185 km north of Baghdad, police and residents used heavy machinery and shovels to search for bodies under the rubble of nearly 100 shops and homes after Saturday's truck bomb blast. *Reuters*

Ex-head of Bosnian Muslim Army Delic to go on trial

AMSTERDAM—THE FORMER leader of Bosnia's Muslim Army, Rasim Delic, is due to go on trial at the UN war crimes tribunal on Monday charged with responsibility for rape, torture and murder of Bosnian Croats and Serbs by his troops.

Delic, one of the most senior Muslims to appear at the tribunal, is accused of failing to punish alleged atrocities committed by foreign Islamic fighters under his command, and of having been aware of their propensity for violence.

Prosecutors, however, are seeking a last-minute suspension of the trial and its transfer to a Bosnian court after the tribunal judges limited the amount of time to hear prosecution witnesses, as the court came under pressure to wind up its work by 2010.

Prosecutors say this limits the scope of the trial and makes The Hague, where those charged with the greatest responsibility are tried, an inappropriate venue.

On Friday they renewed their plea for a postponement, after a first request was denied on Thursday.

Many Islamic fighters, or "mujahideen," came from North Africa and the Middle East to support fellow Muslims during the conflict in the former Yugoslavia. They moved from giving out food to local Muslims to fighting alongside their forces.

The indictment details an occasion when mujahideen indiscriminately shot dead 24 captured Bosnian Croats outside the village of Maline in June 1993.

It also alleges that in 1995 a captured Bosnian Serb soldier was beheaded in a prison camp and all other Serb prisoners were forced to kiss the severed head, which the mujahideen then placed on a hook in the room where prisoners were held.

Delic, 58, is one of a handful of Bosnian Muslims to stand trial in The Hague for alleged war crimes committed during the 1992-95 Bosnian war. Most accused are Serbs but the court has indicted senior figures from all three Bosnian ethnic groups.

Bosnia's Muslims and Croats began the war as allies against the Serbs but then fought each other for territory. *Reuters*

RASIM Delic AFP

US working on accord to officially end Korean War

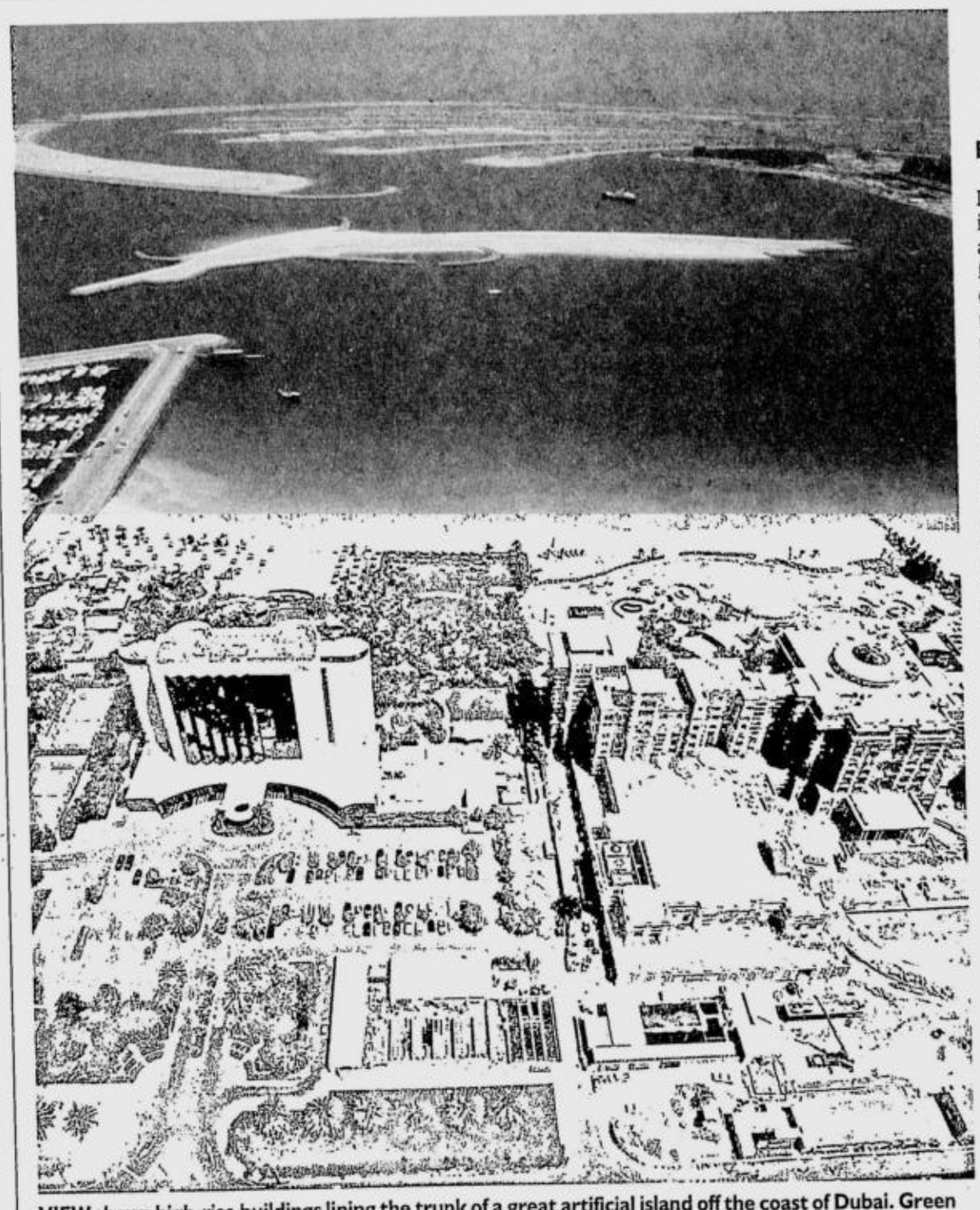
NEW YORK—US STRATEGISTS are exploring how to implement a peace accord to officially end the 1950-53 Korean War and hope to start discussions with North Korea as soon as yearend, The Wall Street Journal reported on Monday.

North Korea is expected to shut down its Yongbyon nuclear reactor in coming days in return for an aid shipment of 50,000 tons of fuel oil, a sign the Pyongyang government is moving ahead with its disarmament pledge, the Journal said on its online edition, citing senior US officials.

If the disarmament process proceeds, the Bush administration hopes to start discussing a formal peace treaty with Pyongyang by yearend, the Journal said, citing Christopher Hill, the assistant secretary of state leading Washington's talks with North Korea.

Some Bush administration officials hope so-called six-party talks over North Korea's nuclear program can evolve into a permanent forum for defusing security threats in Northeast Asia at a time when both Japan and China are bulking up militarily, the report said.

A truce has prevailed on the Korean peninsula since 1953. A formal peace treaty could coincide with the formation of a regional security body to resolve security disputes, along the lines of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the report said. *Reuters*



VIEW shows high-rise buildings lining the trunk of a great artificial island off the coast of Dubai. Green campaigners are concerned about the ecological impact and sustainability of a series of multi-billion dollar man-made islands being built off the coast of the booming emirate of Dubai. AFP

Green activists keep watch on Dubai's man-made isles

By Laith Abou-Ragheb

DUBAI—GIANT ISLANDS TAKing shape off the coast of Dubai are sparking interest not only from celebrities but also from environmental campaigners jittery about the man-made structures so large they can be seen from space.

Work is all but complete on the Palm Jumeirah, the first of three palm tree-shaped islands, which developers Nakheel say is more than one and a half times the size of New York's Central Park and will eventually house thousands of luxury apartments, beachside villas, upmarket hotels and restaurants.

The project, which includes a cluster of isles taking the shape of a world map, are part of Dubai's rush to become a regional business and tourism powerhouse.

Included are lavish plans for homes built on stilts, marinas, shopping malls, water theme parks, sports facilities, health spas, cinemas, boardwalks, a monorail and a number of dive sites.

With the focus on luxury and leisure, the glitterati are lining up according to Nakheel, which boasts that British footballers David Beckham and Michael Owen as well as Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan have invested in the project.

Interest, it says, has also been been shown by the likes of pop star Michael Jackson, racing driver Michael Schumacher, actors Morgan Freeman and Denzel Washington and model Naomi Campbell.

But with millions of cubic meters of rock and sand being either quarried from the UAE or dredged from the bottom of the Gulf to create the islands, environmentalists are less than enthused.

Wildlife protection groups caution that the heavy dredging could damage marine habitats while other experts warn of increased pollution and strains on the local environment when humans begin flocking to the resorts.

Cyclone Gonu, which tore through neighboring Oman early this month killing 49 people and washing the east coast of the UAE with high waves, has raised concerns about the vulnerability of coastal areas to natural disasters.

"Most countries now agree that climate change is an existing man-made problem. I do hope this was taken into account when designing these projects," said Ibrahim al-Zubi, an environmental volunteer at the Emirates Diving Association (EDA).

EDA is a UN-accredited body that aims to promote the sustainable development of the Gulf state's marine resources.

Zubi said the thousands of people moving on to the islands would put greater strain on the UAE's water and power resources as well as creating more pollution and domestic waste.

The UAE, of which Dubai is one of its seven member states, already has the world's biggest ecological footprint, according to a 2004 report by the World Wildlife Fund that measures the environmental sustainability of a state. *AFP*

Seemed a good idea at the time: Florida raises used-tires artificial reefs

MIAMI—WHEN PEOPLE BEGAN dumping used tires in the ocean 40 years ago to create artificial reefs, they gave little thought to the potential environmental cost, or to how difficult it would be to pick them up.

"It was one of those ideas that seemed good at the time," said Jack Sobel, a senior scientist at The Ocean Conservancy, a Washington-based environmental group. "Now I think it's pretty clear it was a bad idea."

Now, local authorities are going after some 700,000 tires dumped off the coast of Fort Lauderdale, up the coast from Miami. A team of 40 divers from the US Army, Navy and Coast Guard spent three weeks in June pulling up 10,373 sand-filled and slime-coated tires from the ocean floor.

Using the tire project as a salvage exercise, the military divers learned they could strap together 50 to 70 tires with wire cables and lift them to the surface with inflatable air bags, where a crane hauled the bundle from the water.

Millions of tires, usually bundled with nylon straps or steel cables, were cast into the sea off Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia and off the US states of New York, New Jersey, North Carolina, California and Florida.

The idea was to provide habitat for fish while disposing of trash from the land, but in the rugged and corrosive environment of the ocean, nylon straps wore out and snapped, cables rusted, and tires broke free.

Thousands have been tossed up on US shores, particularly during hurricanes. Tires dotted the sand as far as the eye could see along North Carolina's Topsail Island after Hurricane Fran crashed the coast in 1996.

The tires dumped off Fort Lauderdale posed a particular threat. When they broke free they migrated shoreward and ran into a living reef tract, climbing up its slope and killing everything in their path.

US states no longer permit tire reefs. But Sobel said the entire concept of artificial reefs needs to be reexamined.

They have been created around the globe using all manner of material, from tires and concrete sewer pipes to discarded airplanes and ships. One of the largest, the rusting 270-meter US aircraft carrier Oriskany, was sent to the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico last year. *Reuters*

Indonesia files $1.5-B lawsuit against Suharto

JAKARTA, INDONESIA—PROSECUTORS filed a civil lawsuit against former Indonesian dictator Suharto on Monday, seeking $1.54 billion (euro1.13 billion) in damages and funds allegedly stolen from the state during his 32 years in power.

The case was filed at the South Jakarta District Court, public prosecutor Dachamer Munthe said.

"This is not a criminal case against corruption, but a civil lawsuit," he said. "We just want the money back. It could be used for the development of this country."

Court documents showed prosecutors want Suharto to repay $441 million in allegedly stolen funds and $1.1 billion in damages.

The money was allegedly channeled from the Indonesian Central Bank through state-owned banks to a Suharto-headed fund called Yayasan Supersemar.

The fund was said to finance education scholarships, but the money ended up going "to uncertain purposes," Munthe said.

Muhammad Assegaf, a member of Suharto's legal team, said the charges were "merely aimed at forcing Suharto to face the trial. The lawsuit is misaddressed because Suharto no longer chairs the foundations," he said.

Suharto, 86, was toppled from power a decade ago amid the Asian financial crisis, but his former associates and family still have considerable influence on political decision-making and the judicial system.

While Suharto has escaped criminal charges, the lawsuit enables the state to go after tens of billions of dollars (euros) that disappeared during his regime.

A judge will determine if there are sufficient grounds to proceed, although media reports this week said prosecutors have been unable to recover original documents needed to support their case.

Indonesia's court system is plagued with corruption, poorly trained staff and financial constraints.

Human rights groups say Suharto was one of the most brutal strongmen of the previous century, responsible for the murder of as many as a million Indonesians in an anticommunist purge in the 1960s, the deaths of around 183,000 East Timorese during two decades of occupation and a further 100,000 killings in West Papua.

Tommy Suharto, his son, was released from prison last year after serving five years out of a 15-year prison sentence for ordering the assassination of a Supreme Court judge. *AP*

SUHARTO, with daughter Siti Hardiyanti Rukmana (right) and aide at his 86th birthday on June 8. AP

The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

Constitution framers challenge Abbas

Say Palestinian president wrong to appoint new government, ease out Hamas

NABLUS, WEST BANK—THE SENIOR LAWYERS who wrote the interim Palestinian constitution say President Mahmoud Abbas exceeded his powers in appointing an emergency government to replace a Hamas-led Cabinet without parliamentary approval.

The Palestinian constitutional lawyer who led the framing of the Basic Law accused some political leaders of "destroying" its foundation and expressed dismay at how Western powers responded to the free election of a Hamas government headed by Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh by imposing a crippling boycott.

Abbas' office had no immediate comment. A spokesperson for his Fatah party said at the weekend, however, that the president's word was law as long as Hamas' "mutiny" paralyzed parliament.

Washington, which imposed the boycott when Haniyeh took office in March 2006, embraced as "legitimate" the Cabinet Abbas appointed after Hamas routed his Fatah forces in the Gaza Strip on June 14. The European Union also "emphatically" backed Abbas' actions as "in keeping with the Palestinian Basic Law."

In their first public comments since Abbas formed a new government, Anis al-Qasem, who oversaw the writing of the Basic Law, and fellow independent Palestinian constitutional lawyer Eugene Cotran said the document whose drafting they began more than a decade ago gave Abbas the power to dismiss Haniyeh.

But, they said, it did not grant him the power to appoint a new government without legislative approval nor the right to suspend articles of the Basic Law, as he did last month to spare new premier Salam Fayyad the need to win a vote in parliament.

Appointed by Yasser Arafat, al-Qasem said the president's powers were "intentionally and explicitly very restricted".

However, Azmi Shuaibi, who sat on a parliamentary committee on the Basic Law, defended Abbas' power to suspend articles. He said Article 113, which stipulates that the legislature "shall not be dissolved or suspended during the emergency situation, nor shall the provisions of this chapter be suspended," meant he "can suspend articles in other chapters."

Al-Qasem disagreed, cautioning against making "such wild implication ... particularly where the implication could easily lead to dictatorship—the system that the Basic Law was intended, in all its provisions, to guard against." "They are obviously looking for the slimmest argument to build a mountain on and dry the ocean. They are destroying the foundation on which the Basic Law is laid," he said.

Al-Qasem and Cotran said the Basic Law further prescribes that Haniyeh's dismissed unity Cabinet, which included Abbas' secular Fatah faction, remain the caretaker administration until Abbas secured parliamentary approval for a new government.

"What is clear is that ... the Haniyeh government, doesn't fall during the period of an emergency," Cotran said. *Reuters*

Pakistan says leaders at besieged Red Mosque are wanted terrorists

ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN—PRESIDENT Gen. Pervez Musharraf convened a high-level meeting Monday on how to crack a nearly week-long resistance allegedly led by wanted terrorists holed up in a mosque in the heart of Pakistan's capital.

As the meeting began, sporadic gunfire erupted again around the Lal Masjid, or Red Mosque, where the government says well-armed terrorists wanted in attacks in Pakistan and beyond are directing a determined defense against thousands of troops.

A mosque spokesperson, meanwhile, claimed hundreds of men and women died in a military assault on the mosque and adjoining Islamic school.

It was impossible to verify either claim in the escalating battle of gunfire and rhetoric between the government and the defenders of the mosque.

Musharraf sent in troops last Wednesday, a day after supporters of the mosque's radical clerics fought gunbattles with security forces sent to contain their campaign to impose Taliban-style rule in the capital.

At least 24 people have died so far, including a special forces commando shot as the military blasted holes in the walls of the fortified compound. Officials said they hoped hundreds of students allegedly being held hostage in the mosque could use the gaps to escape.

The siege sparked an antigovernment protest Monday by some 20,000 tribesmen, including hundreds of masked militants wielding assault rifles, in the northwest region of Bajur.

Many chanted "Death to Musharraf" and "Death to America" in a rally led by Maulana Faqir Mohammed, a cleric wanted by authorities and who is believed to be a close lieutenant of al-Qaida No. 2 leader Ayman al-Zawahri.

"All of Musharraf's policies are against Islam and the country; therefore he has become our enemy. He will not be spared and revenge will be taken against him for these atrocities," he said.

"Innocent scholars and students are being martyred, mosques are being ruined only to please America," he said.

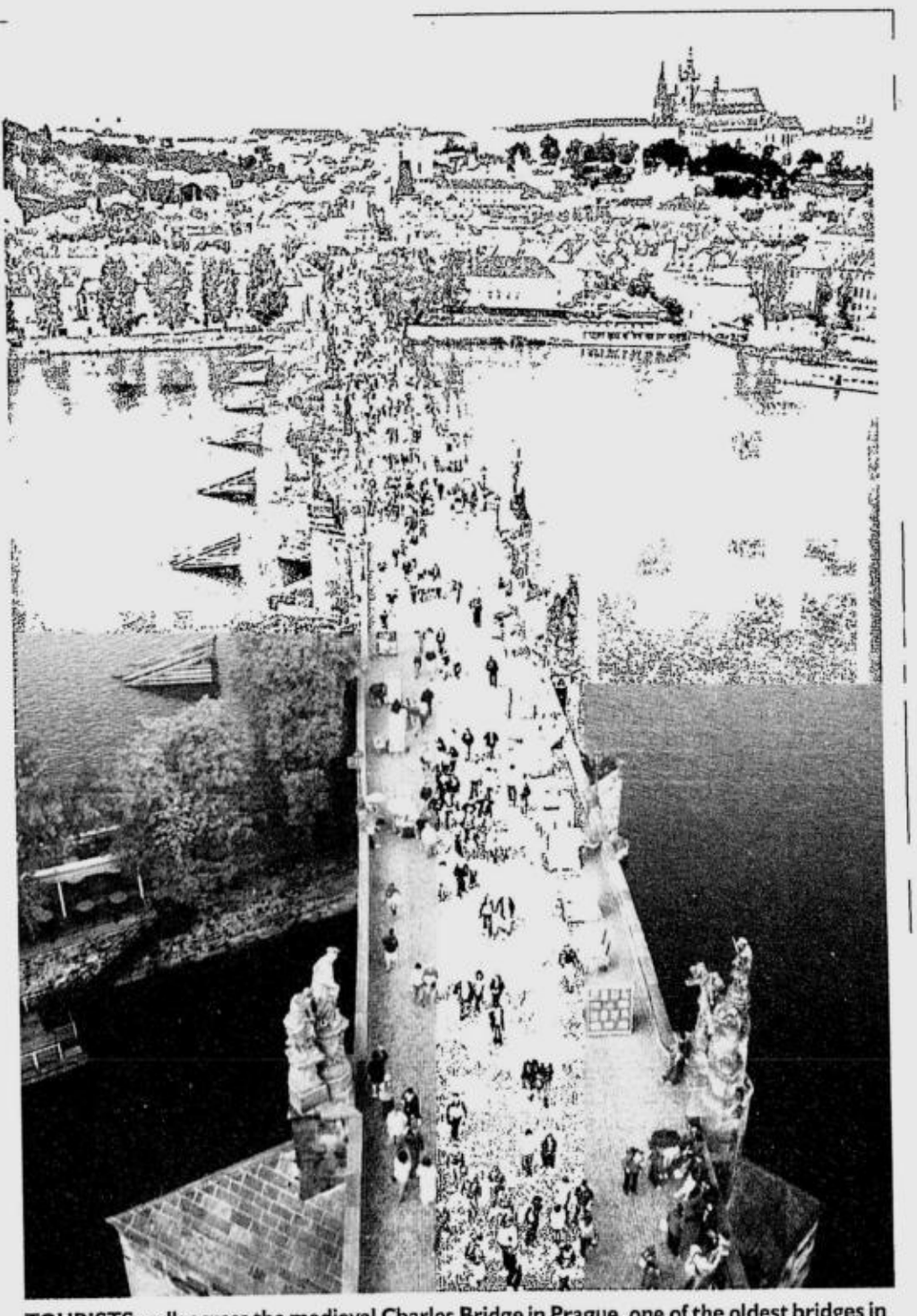
Religious Affairs Minister Ejaz ul-Haq said terrorists, including a suspect in a plot against Pakistan's prime minister, were in control of the mosque.

"I can only tell you they are involved in many terrorist activities inside and outside" Pakistan, ul-Haq said. "And there are a few who are very renowned, very well known, more well known than al-Qaida and the Taliban."

Ul-Haq provided no details. However, Musharraf has said members of Jaish-e-Mohammed, a radical group involved in fighting Indian rule in Kashmir and with links to al-Qaida, was involved.

A military official who said he was not allowed to speak on the record said intercepts of telephone calls from the mosque indicated the defenders also had links to Harkat Jihad-e-Islami.

Some members of Harkat have been suspected of involvement in the killing of Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl in Karachi in 2002, and in a bombing the same year in the city that killed 11 French engineers. *AP*



TOURISTS walk across the medieval Charles Bridge in Prague, one of the oldest bridges in Europe which marked the 650th anniversary of its foundation on July 9. REUTERS

Prague's Charles Bridge marks its 650th birthday

PRAGUE—A CORTEGE OF ARMORED knights, official speeches and a peal of bells marked the 650th birthday of Prague's famous Charles Bridge at 5.31 a.m. on Monday.

At that precise time on July 9, 1357, Charles IV, the King of Bohemia and future Holy Roman Emperor, laid the foundation stone for what is now one of the city's biggest tourist attractions after consulting astrologers and astronomers about the best time for work to start.

A "night of spirits," recalling the numerous legends linked with the bridge, punctuated by medieval dances, fairy tales and historic reenactions were presided over by Prague Mayor Pavel Bem and the grand master of the Order of the Knights of the Cross, Jiri Kopejsko.

Both drank a toast to the memory of the bridge with mead before the official party celebrated a Mass in the nearby church conducted by Prague archbishop Miloslav Vlk.

The bridge, which until 1841 was the only link between the two historic halves of the city, has now become a tourist hot spot for the four million foreign visitors who visit the Czech capital every year, offering an unrivaled panorama of both sides of the city. *AFP*

81st bird flu death in Indonesia

JAKARTA—A SIX-YEAR-OLD INDONESIAN boy died of bird flu at the weekend, taking the death toll in the country worst hit by the virus to 81, a health ministry official said Monday.

Indonesia has seen its toll from the deadly H5N1 virus grow steadily since 2005 when the first confirmed human deaths occurred here.

"A boy who died on July 8 has been confirmed by two tests as being positively infected," Ningrum, from the ministry's National Bird Flu Information Center, said.

"The toll is now at 102 infected, and 81 dead."

The primary school student was from the industrial town of Cilegon, 72 km west of the capital Jakarta.

The boy, identified only by the initials FZ, died at Jakarta's Sulianti Saroso hospital, Indonesia's main center for treating victims of the virus.

He showed symptoms on July 1 but was only admitted to hospital four days later and immediately transferred to Jakarta.

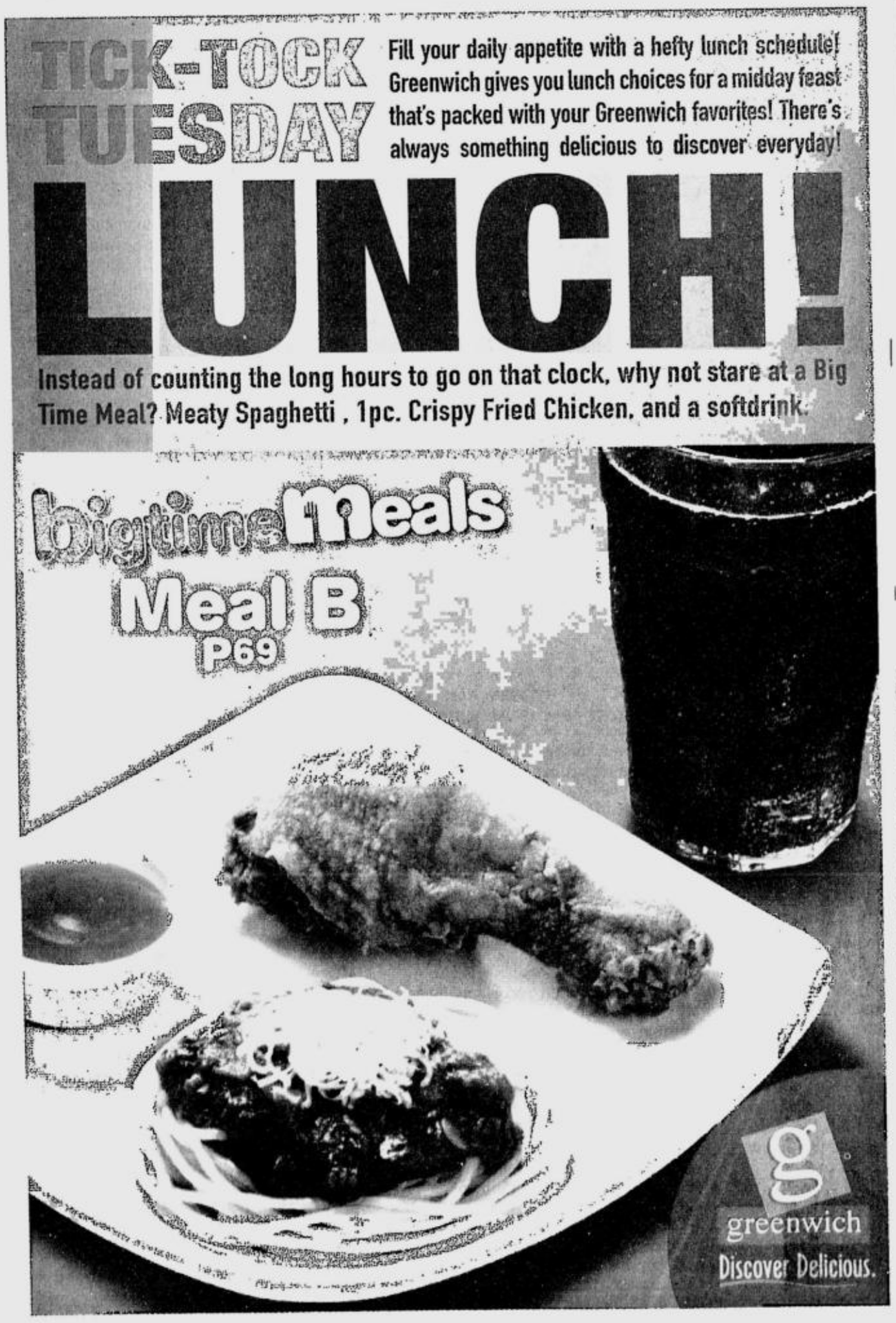
Ningrum said it was unclear whether the victim had come into contact with dead or infected poultry. Contact with infected birds is the most common form of transmission of the deadly virus to humans, experts say.

The UN health agency said last month that though the fight against bird flu had improved around the world, the situation remained critical both in Indonesia and Egypt. The frequent contact many people have with domesticated birds elevates the risk of transmission and mutation.

In Indonesia alone, the World Health Organization estimates that there are more than 13,000 poultry markets, where birds from many different places are exposed to each other.

Scientists worry the bird flu virus could mutate into a form easily spread among humans, leading to a global pandemic with the potential to kill millions.

The fear stems from past influenza pandemics. A flu pandemic in 1918, just after the end of World War I, killed 20 million people worldwide. *AFP*



WHAT'S INSIDE

Hot Raikkonen clinches British GP /A23

Website: www.inquirer.net/sports

SPORTS

Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres Assistant Editor Francis T. J. Ochoa

Text us your feedback: inquirer sprt name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph

Five consecutive crowns for valiant King Roger /A23

JONES CUP LETDOWN

RP dribblers post 'bad win' over Qataris

By Ernesto A. Gonzales

TAIPEI—THE SAN MIGUEL-Pilipinas national five cooled off after a sizzling start but came up with just enough fire to turn back Qatar, 88-80, Monday in the 29th William Jones Cup International basketball tournament here.

Coach Chot Reyes had himself thrown out after getting successive technical fouls and the ploy worked as the Nationals regrouped after nearly blowing a 21-point lead to clinch their fifth win in eight games.

"If Jordan was a good loss, this is a bad win," said Reyes. "They played with great effort and energy in the first half, then they thought the game was over and relaxed."

All five starters scored to set the tone for the explosive takeoff of the Filipinos, who are in the homestretch of their scrambling buildup for the Fiba Asia Championship in Tokushima, Japan, starting late this month.

The Nationals, who led all the way for the first time in the 10-team tournament, pulled ahead by 18 after the first quarter, then went ahead by 47-26 late in the second period.

But Qatar came back hard to move within six points twice in the third period, and though the Filipinos regained a double-digit lead at 62-49, Reyes decided it was time to fire up his boys some more by taking two Ts with 30.4 seconds left in the quarter.

"*Nagpa*-thrown out *na ako* (I had myself ejected)," Reyes said with a smile.

Reyes later said the Filipinos' performance was unacceptable since they were supposed to play with sustained aggression throughout.

Turning to his last game against Kazakhstan at 3:30 p.m. tomorrow, Reyes said it will be nothing but a "foundation" match since the Filipinos might end up facing the Kazakhs in the quarterfinals in the Fiba Asia if they get past Jordan and Iran.

Meanwhile, Jordan, a 74-70 winner over RP last Friday, all but clinched the championship with a 72-71 decision of Iran.

With a leading 7-1 record, the Jordanians next face lowly Japan, which took an 82-74 whipping from Lebanon earlier.

While defending champion United States has a chance to tie Jordan, the Americans are goners in a two-way deadlock due to an earlier loss to the Jordanians.

Lebanon is currently tied with RP at 5-3 in the battle for third.

Mark Caguioa, although feverish early in the day, put in enough minutes to pace the Filipinos with 14 points. It was the starting combination of Asi Taulava, Kelly Williams, Gabe Norwood, Jayjay Helterbrand and James Yap, though, that surprised Qatar initially.

Dondon Hontiveros added 13 points like Williams, including two free throws that bailed RP out, 85-77, with 31 seconds left after Qatar, which took a sixth loss in eight games, came within 77-83.

The scores:

PHILIPPINES 88—Caguioa 14, Hontiveros 13, Williams 13, Alapag 11, Taulava 10, Helterbrand 9, Norwood 6, Raymundo 5, Yap 4, Pennisi 3, Menk 0.

QATAR 80—Musa 19, Saeed 19, Salem 14, Abdi 8, Ahmad 7, Abdulla 6, Abdul Rahman 5, Daoud 2, Nasr 0, Malek 0.

Quarters: 28-10, 47-29, 62-54, 88-80

SAN MIGUEL-Pilipinas' Kerby Raymundo fouls Iran's 7-foot-1 center Hamed Ehadadi in a rebound play Saturday. The Filipinos won.

STANDINGS	W	L
Jordan	7	1
USA	5	2
Lebanon	5	3
Philippines	5	3
Chinese-Taipei	4	3
Iran	4	4
Qatar	2	6
South Korea	3	4
Kazakhstan	1	6
Japan	1	7

GAMES TODAY

11 a.m.—Jordan vs Japan

1 p.m.—Lebanon vs Qatar

3:30 p.m.—RP vs Kazakhstan

5:30 p.m.—Iran vs USA

7:30 p.m.—Chinese-Taipei vs South Korea

Anniversary Sale up to 70% off!

OVERCOMING BALDNESS

THINK-A-HEAD

No man likes being bald. He may try to ignore it, but deep inside, there's a nagging feeling that life has been unfair. Why me? Why have I gone bald when my friends haven't? Many men sadly accept looking older, being called "Baldie," feeling not so attractive to the opposite sex and putting up with the other handicaps baldness brings – both socially and career wise.

Other men refuse to accept baldness and look for a way out – this is when a wrong decision can lead to an even worse state of frustration and despair. Before you do anything about baldness, read the answers to these most asked questions.

Q. I DON'T LIKE BEING BALD – WHAT CAN I DO?

A. There are basically two ways to go. Some men opt for a surgical hair transplant. Others for the non-surgical alternative. When making the decision there's one essential rule: *THINK-A-HEAD!* - it's not only the immediate results that are so important, it's what your head is going to look like in a few years.

Q. OK, SO WHAT ABOUT SURGICAL TRANSPLANTS?

A. Some say transplants have come a long way since the early days, others say they haven't come far enough. Basically, the surgical process involves taking donor hair from elsewhere on the recipient's head and transplanting it to the balding areas.

Q. DOES TRANSPLANTED HAIR CONTINUE TO GROW?

A. If the surgery has been performed well, the transplanted hair will continue to grow, as it did before it was moved.

Q. CAN ANY BALD MAN HAVE A TRANSPLANT?

A. It's not really possible for a man with advanced baldness because he simply would not have sufficient donor hair to cover his large bald area. Transplants do not increase the number of hairs on a man's head, it's just a case of redistributing them. Transplants are excellent for filling in smaller areas or adding extra hair to thinning parts where there is not expected to be further hairloss.

Q. ARE THERE ANY PROBLEMS WITH TRANSPLANTS?

A. For men whose baldness will not advance further, there seems little downside to having a transplant.

Q. BUT WHAT HAPPENS IF I CONTINUE TO GO BALD?

A. For those whose hairloss continues to advance, there can be significant problems. While the transplanted hair will carry on growing, his other hair becomes thin in contrast as he progressively goes bald. He can have further transplants, but it's likely donor hair will become insufficient as the donor areas do not re-grow hair. The result might be patches of thicker-growing hair among thinning and sparser hair – and this won't take long to happen. The ensuing odd appearance of the man's head can cause him further embarrassment and stress. Speed of hairloss varies, but for most it takes just a few short years from thinning to full-blown baldness.

If a man suffers from Male Pattern Baldness, which usually strikes when he's in his early twenties or thirties, his hairloss will likely continue until he's bald. This is where the catch-phrase *THINK-A-HEAD!* comes into play. Think what your head will look like in a few years after surgical transplanting – will you want to go out in public?

Q. I DON'T WANT THAT RISK, SO WHAT'S THE ALTERNATIVE?

A. The non-surgical alternative is TCR or Transdermal Cosmetic Reconstruction. It's a super-fine synthetic skin with hair seen to be actually growing from it, which is then bonded to your scalp.

Q. IS TCR FOR ANYONE, NO MATTER HOW BALD HE MIGHT BE?

A. Yes, this advanced system is ideal for any state of hairloss and baldness, even for those with only a small amount of hair at the back and sides – the sort of baldness which is really not suitable for a transplant.

Q. HOW REAL IS TCR, WILL IT LOOK GENUINE?

A. TCR is real, natural hair, which looks and feels as if it's growing from your scalp. TCR cannot be distinguished from your own hair, even by touching. You are not "wearing" it, it's part of you.

Q. DOES TCR REQUIRE SPECIAL CARE?

A. To keep TCR perfect, you need only visits to the stylist every two or three weeks, just as any man does for the cutting and styling of his hair. As you get older, your TCR can be subtly aged and grayed, just as your full head of hair would have looked had you not lost any.

Q. IT SEEMS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE – WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS?

A. There are no problems. You can do anything with TCR, it's your new full head of hair. It feels totally natural on your head – you're not aware of it. The only times you'll be reminded that you're no longer bald is when you look in the mirror and how others react to you – remember, you're going to look years younger!

Q. IS TCR AVAILABLE IN MANILA?

A. Yes, it's available in Manila at Svenson, the hair replacement specialists.

Q. IS TCR SUITABLE FOR ME?

A. To find out if your scalp condition and skin type are suitable for the TCR procedure, book a no-cost TCR fact-finding consultation by calling 892-4247.

TOYOTA moving forward

Superior Protection will soon be yours.
Imagine a beautiful moment.

ALL NEW VIOS
My Design. My Pride.

Squires, Staglets forge 4-way tie at top

By Marc Anthony Reyes

LETRAN AND SAN SEBASTIAN YESTERDAY called on their chief gunners to riddle their respective rivals with a hail of baskets.

STANDINGS	W	L
Letran	2	1
San Beda	2	1
S. Sebastian	2	1
Jose Rizal	2	1
CSB-LSGH	1	2
Perpetual	0	3

GAMES TOMORROW
(*The Arena, San Juan*)
2 p.m.—San Beda vs St. Benilde (Srs)
4 p.m.—Perpetual vs Letran (Srs)

Kevin Alas scored a season-high 40 points as Letran downed erstwhile unbeaten San Beda, 106-92, while San Sebastian leaned on Ryan Buenafe's 36 points to rout CSB-La Salle Greenhills, 105-83, in NCAA junior basketball at The Arena in San Juan.

In handing San Beda its first loss in three games, Letran crowded the top spot along with its victim, defending champion San Sebastian and third game winner Jose Rizal, which routed Perpetual Help, 98-77.

The Letran Squires, the SSC Staglets, the San Beda Red Cubs and the Jose Right Light Bombers tote similar 2-win, 1-loss records.

The 6-foot-2 Kevin, one of two sons of Letran men's team coach Louie Alas in the junior squad, shot 14-of-21 from the field to surpass the previous season-best of 38 points set by Jose Rizal's BJ Cipriano against San Beda last week.

Kevin, a sophomore guard who is averaging 17 points per game, also added seven rebounds, two assists and one block in 35 minutes of play.

Letran also banked on Glenn Khobuntin who had 20 points. John Noble and Kevin's older brother, Kristoffer, added 14 points each.

The scores

FIRST GAME

LETRAN 106—Alas Ke. 40, Khobuntin 20, Noble 14, Alas Kr. 14, Reforsado 6, Romeo 4, Munsayac 4, San Jose 2, Javier 2, Roxas 0.

SAN BEDA 92—Salva 17, Revilla 17, Dela Cruz 11, Lobaton 10, Babilonia 10, Bernas 7, Ayala 7, Del Rosario 7, Monteclaro 6, Panaligan 0, Asinas 0, Altamirano 0.

Quarters: 29-28, 58-45, 81-65, 106-92.

SECOND GAME

SAN SEBASTIAN 105—Buenafe 36, Gusi 22, Delgado Je. 8, Andrada 6, Estrada 6, Bringas 5, Cam 4, Ramsey 4, Delgado Jo. 4, Bautista 4, Laconico 4, Delgado F. 1, Santos 1, Ortuoste 0, Mamaril 0.

CSB-LSGH 83—Dela Paz 33, Reyes Mi. 18, Nicolas 9, Reyes M. 7, Yulo 6, Reyes Ma. 2, Malimban 2, Quebral 0, Seno 0, Flores 0, Asuncion 0.

Quarters: 27-18, 51-27, 79-64, 105-83.

Manila Invt'l caging: RP cagers in shape

WITH SPECTACULAR VICTORIES OVER THE UNITED States, South Korea, Iran and host Chinese-Taipei in the ongoing 29th William Jones Cup, San Miguel-Pilipinas has proved its worthiness for a hometown tournament before it goes to war three weeks from now.

From July 12-15, less than two weeks before they fly to Tokushima to battle for an Olympic berth in the FIBA-Asia Men's Championship, the Nationals will take on powerhouse China, Syria and Lebanon in a 4-nation Manila Invitational at the New Arena in San Juan and the Araneta Coliseum.

The appearance marks the first and last time Chot Reyes' SMC-RP squad will parade its stuff before the Filipino public as it embarks on a journey that could carry it all the way to the Beijing Olympiad in August next year.

No Philippine basketball team has made it to the Olympic Games since 1972 in Munich, Germany, the year masked Palestinian terrorists scaled the walls of the Olympic Village, barged into the Israeli sleeping quarters, and shot to death half a dozen of the occupants, athletes and coaches alike.

"As we wind up the RP team buildup to Tokushima, the four-nation Invitational is a great opportunity to showcase to the millions of Filipino fans the product of our national team's labor and commitment to win an Olympic berth," said PBA commissioner Noli Eala.

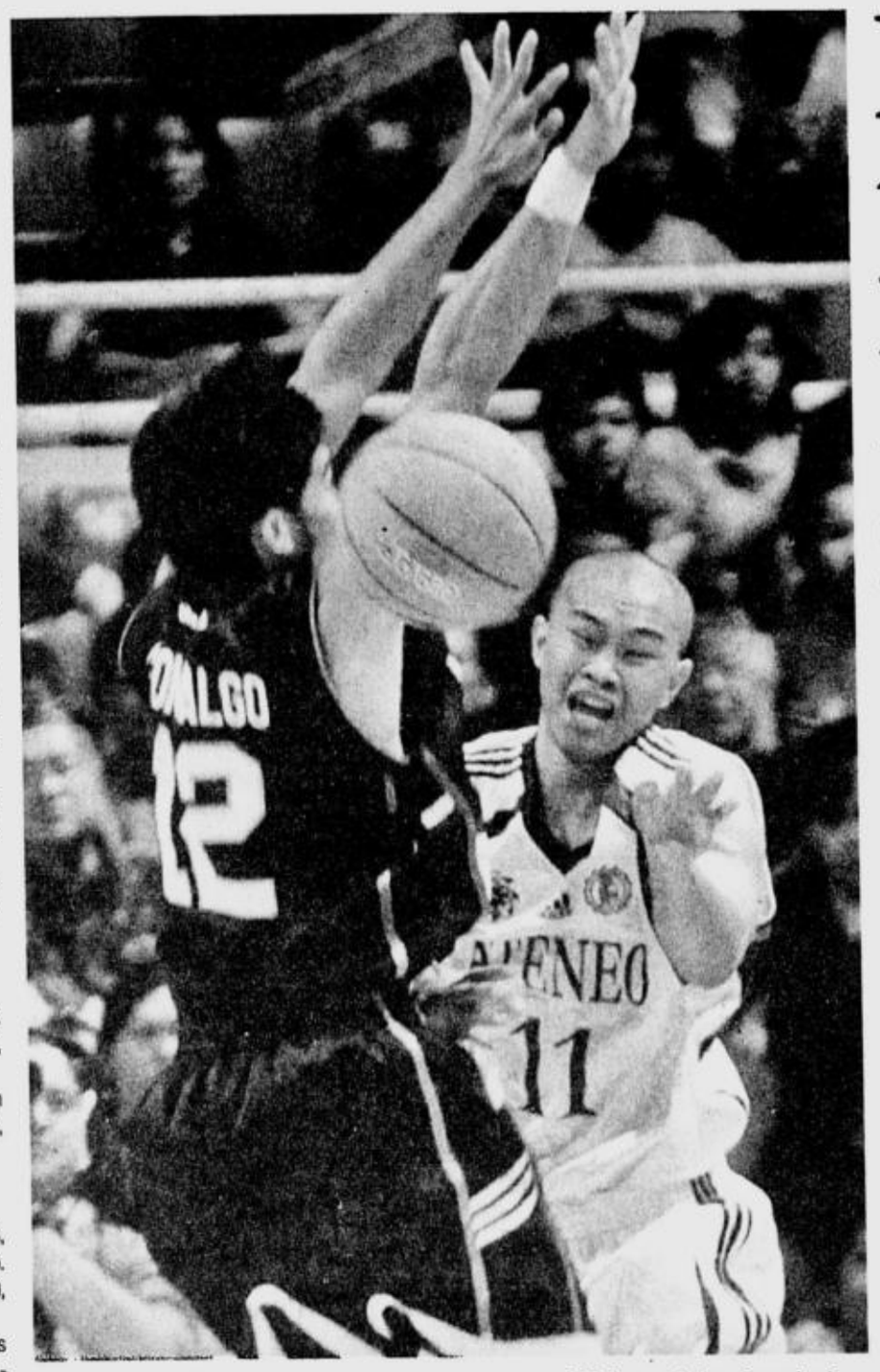
The tournament format calls for a single round robin, with the top two teams vying for the championship and the other two playing for third place.

Venue for the July 12 and 14 games is The New Arena, while the Araneta Coliseum hosts the July 13 and 15 matches.

The Big Dome games , on the13 and the 15th will serve as curtain-raiser for games of the PBA Fiesta Conference Finals.

The Tokushima FIBA-Asia, set July 28-Aug. 5, will pick Asia's representative to the Olympics. As Olympics host, China is seeded to the Games.

If the Chinese make it to the FIBA-Asia final, then the other finalist will go to Beijing as well. If China fails to reach the final, then only the FIBA-Asia champion gets a ticket to the Games.



ATENEO'S Eric Salamat passes to an open teammate off Adamson's Leo Canuday in Sunday's game at the Cuneta Astrodome. The Blue Eagles prevailed, 69-63. RYAN LIM

Eaglets down Baby Falcons; Baby Tams up

By Jasmine W. Payo

THE SMALL GUY PRODUCED big numbers for the Ateneo Blue Eaglets yesterday.

JV Dumrique, a 5-foot-7 sophomore guard, flashed all-around skills as he powered the Blue Eaglets past the Adamson Bay Falcons, 74-68, in the UAAP juniors basketball tournament at the Blue Eagle Gym over the weekend.

Teaming up with Ivan Enriquez in the final canto, Dumrique finished with 20 points, nine rebounds, five assists and three steals.

Al Bugarin added 10 markers, while Enriquez shot six of his 10 points in the fourth period.

The Far Eastern Baby Tamaraws, who lost to the Eaglets in last season's Finals, also had a rousing start with a 78-51 crushing of the University of the Philippines Junior Maroons.

Leaning on the quartet of Jolas Guerrero, Anthony Paulino, Shane Ko and Paolo Talavera, the Baby Tamaraws zoomed to a 44-26 halftime advantage.

Guerrero and Paulino led the Baby Tamaraws with similar double-double numbers of 15 markers and 11 boards.

Ko contributed 12, including seven points in the pivotal second-quarter run.

GAMES THURSDAY
(*Ninoy Aquino Stadium*)
2 p.m.—Univ. of East vs National U (Srs)
4 p.m.—Univ. of Phils. vs Ateneo (Srs)

The returning La Salle Zobel Junior Archers joined the opening-day winners with a 78-44 rout of the University of the East Pages, while the National University Bullpups outclassed the University of Santo Tomas Tiger Cubs, 74-64.

After clinching the 2005 juniors title, the Junior Archers failed to defend their crown last year as La Salle served a one-year suspension in all sports for fielding two ineligible players in the senior squad.

The scores:

First Game (Jrs)

ATENEO 74—Dumrique 20, Bugarin 13, Enriquez 10, Banal 8, Golla 6, Ravena 4, Reyes 4, Valera 3, Gamboa 3, Tiongson 2, Capacio 1, Bejar 0, Balmaceda 0, Esquievel 0, Aportadera 0.

ADAMSON 68—Santos 20, Penan 15, Tadeo 12, Ceguerra 10, Lontoc 8, Atrero 2, Juruena 1, Ursabia 0, Espina 0. Reyes 0, Deloreno 0, Vitug 0, Borja 0.

Quarters:17-17, 43-36, 61-59, 74-68

Second Game (Jrs)

FEU 78—Guerrero 15, Paulino 15, Ko 12, Talavera 8, Edding 7, Castillo 6, Argamino 5, Almario 4, Pardo 4, Maloles 2, Rodrin 0.

UP 51—Isip 14, Espiritu 11, Marata 10, Tolentino 5, Jimenez 5, Gammad 4, Merioles 2, Geoganica 0, Saroca 0, Moreno 0, Cruz 0.

Quarters: 24-17, 44-26, 63-40, 78-51

Condes prepares for life as a celebrity

By Salven L. Lagumbay, *Contributor*

JAKARTA—HE LEFT THE PHILIPPINES on July 2 a virtual unknown. He will come back a celebrity.

Florante "The Little Pacquiao" Condes says he is preparing himself for the expected deluge of media interviews when he arrives in Manila.

Condes, a woeful underdog, shocked Indonesian fight fans on Saturday night by knocking down titleholder Muhammad Rachman twice en route to a split decision victory that gave him the International Boxing Federation minimumweight crown.

The win by Condes, raised in poverty in Sampaguita, Looc, Romblon, silenced the boisterous crowd at the RCTI television station studio in the Indonesian capital.

"No problem," Condes said when asked how he would deal with the media once he steps out of the Philippine Airlines flight in Manila late last night.

"No problem," he also said when querried whether he was willing to give the popular Rachman a rematch.

Condes plans to take a 15-day rest from three months of hard training and take care of his aging mother Juanita.

"Gusto ko po sanang mapagawan ng bahay ang nanay ko (I would like to build a house for my mom)," said the new champion, the youngest in a brood of six.

"Wala po kaming bahay doon sa Romblon *at pulubi lang kami. Kahit papaano makagawa man lang ako ng bahay para sa kanya* (We don't have a house in Romblon and we are very poor. I just want to give her a house)."

Condes' father, his namesake, died years ago from tuberculosis.

He said that due to extreme poverty, they could not bring his father to a decent hospital.

Condes also plans to recover a parcel of land that his father inherited in Romblon, but was not given to them due to their lack of education.

"He really wants to get what is due his family," said Condes' manager Aljoe Jaro.

Jaro believes that Condes, who initially worked as a gasoline boy prior to his foray into professional boxing, will earn the money that would allow him and his family to live a decent life."

The manager said he will immediately negotiate for a possible title defense for Condes in the Philippines.

"I will fight whoever my manager wants me to fight," said Condes in Filipino.

In the meantime, Condes wants to make himself accustomed to the celebrity life that comes with being a legitimate world boxing champion.

GMA salutes 2 champs

By Michael Lim Ubac

CONDES

BOXING CHAMPIONS FLORANTE CONDES AND NONITO DONAIRE "herald the fighting spirit of the Filipino athlete," President Macapagal-Arroyo said yesterday.

President Arroyo led the nation in congratulating the country's two newest boxing heroes—minimum weight Condes and flyweight Donaire—who won world championships less than 24 hours apart over the weekend.

"We salute their achievement and rejoice in their victory. These men, described in the press as underdogs, prove they belong to the league of champions. Like them, we shall never give up or give in until we emerge victorious in the battle against poverty and terror," said Ms Arroyo in a statement.

In Jakarta Saturday night, Condes carved out a split decision victory over Indonesia's Muhammad Rachman to snatch the International Boxing Federation (IBF) crown.

In Bridgepoft, Connecticut, the United States, Donaire scored a sensational fifth-round knockout win over previously unbeaten IBF and International Boxing Organization (IBF) flyweight titlist Vic Darchinyan of Australia.

SPORTSWATCH

P2-M poker tournaments up

PACIFIC POKER PALACE IS GIVING AWAY more than P2 million in prizes for its July tournaments at the Airport Casino Filipino in Parañnaque. Ben dela Cruz of PPP said tournaments this Saturday and on July 21 dangle P100,000 prizes. A prize pot of P1 million is at stake on July 28. Free roll tournaments are held every Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 1 p.m. with Ladies Night held every Friday at 7 p.m. For inquiries: visit pacificpokerpalace.com or call 833-8542, 854-1305 or 0920-2225939.

Pascua CJAP pick for June

HARIDAS PASCUA WAS NAMED AS PLAYER of the Month for June by the Chess Journalists Association of the Philippnes (CJAP). Pascua, the 13-year-old from Mangatarem, Pangasinan, bagged two of the country's eight gold medals in the 2007 Asean age-group chess championship in Pattaya, Thailand, last month. He won the gold in the standard event with a score of 8.5 points out of a possible nine. He added another gold in the blitz event to emerge as the winningest Filipino player in the championships. Pascua joins GM Nelson Mariano (January), IM Wesley So (March and May) and Julio IM Catalino Sadorra (April) as the only other awardees of the CJAP.

Tough lineup in SJC 6-cocker

FIFTY PROMINENT COCKERS AND GAMEFOWL breeders will see action in today's opening round of the 3M Rambulan 6-Cock Derby at San Juan Coliseum, with Sagupaan Complexor 3000 as main backer. Morinubo Taniguchi of Japan and Patrick Antonio, co-champions in the recent SJC International Derby, sets out as early favorites along with Makati Invitational Derby champ Sam Mendoza, Gerry Ramos, Richard Bates and Pepito Ngo. Four more elimination rounds will be held on July 12, 14, 17 and 19. The 4-cock finals is on July 21 and 24. For inquiries, call 725-5369 or 0917-8041691.

RACING

BY TOP CHOICE

Race 1—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Easy Lover (4), Inspiring (8), Dance Music (6), Fiercely Bright (7), Extreme Machine (3)

Race 2—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Carlito's Way (3), Gold Fever (8), Kapit Bahay (11), Morning Nell (6), Suplada (7)

Race 3—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Pay To See (9), Magpakailanman/Manila's Style (8), Sunline (5), Hazit Coming (1), Cristina (2)

Race 4—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Hepburn (5), Advance Party (4), Red Bells (11), Olive Oyl (8), Holy King (9)

Race 5—Arsenal (6), My Special Moment (3), You Got It All (10), Personal File (8), Color My World (7)

Race 6—(Qrt/Tri)—La Signorina/Kim Possible (7), Eye Candy (2), Apple Splash (6), Maximu Impact (5)

Race 7—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Magic Dancer (7), Modern Classic (4), Half Medium (6), Earl's Game/Worth Ur While (5)

Race 8—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Pentagon (9), Mr. Lucas (6), Red Hot Water (8), Maricor's Charm (4), Blondie Baj (7), Speed Bullet (1)

Paeng gets Milan tribute

SIX-TIME WORLD CHAMPION PAENG NEPOmuceno brings his act to Italy when he sees action in the first ever Paeng Nepomuceno Cup bowling tournament on July 12-17 at the Loreto Bowling Center in Milan.

Nepomuceno, the FIQ's International Bowler of the Millenium and considered the greatest bowler in the sport's history, will also conduct a clinic as part of the week-long event organized by the Philippine Consulate General in coordination with the Filipino Bowlers Club of Milan.

Nepomuceno, Guinness Book of World Records-holder who was recently designated ambassador of goodwill by the United Nations, will leave for Milan tomorrow. He will be accompanied by wife Pinky, managing director of Puyat Sports.

Some 100 bowling enthusiasts from all over Italy, including Consul General Pedro O. Chan, will compete in the tournament coordinated by Manuel "Jun" Duran, top bowler of the Philippine Consulate General in Milan, and FCBM president Dennis del Rosario and official Roland Pasco.

NEPOMUCENO: Tourney held in his honor

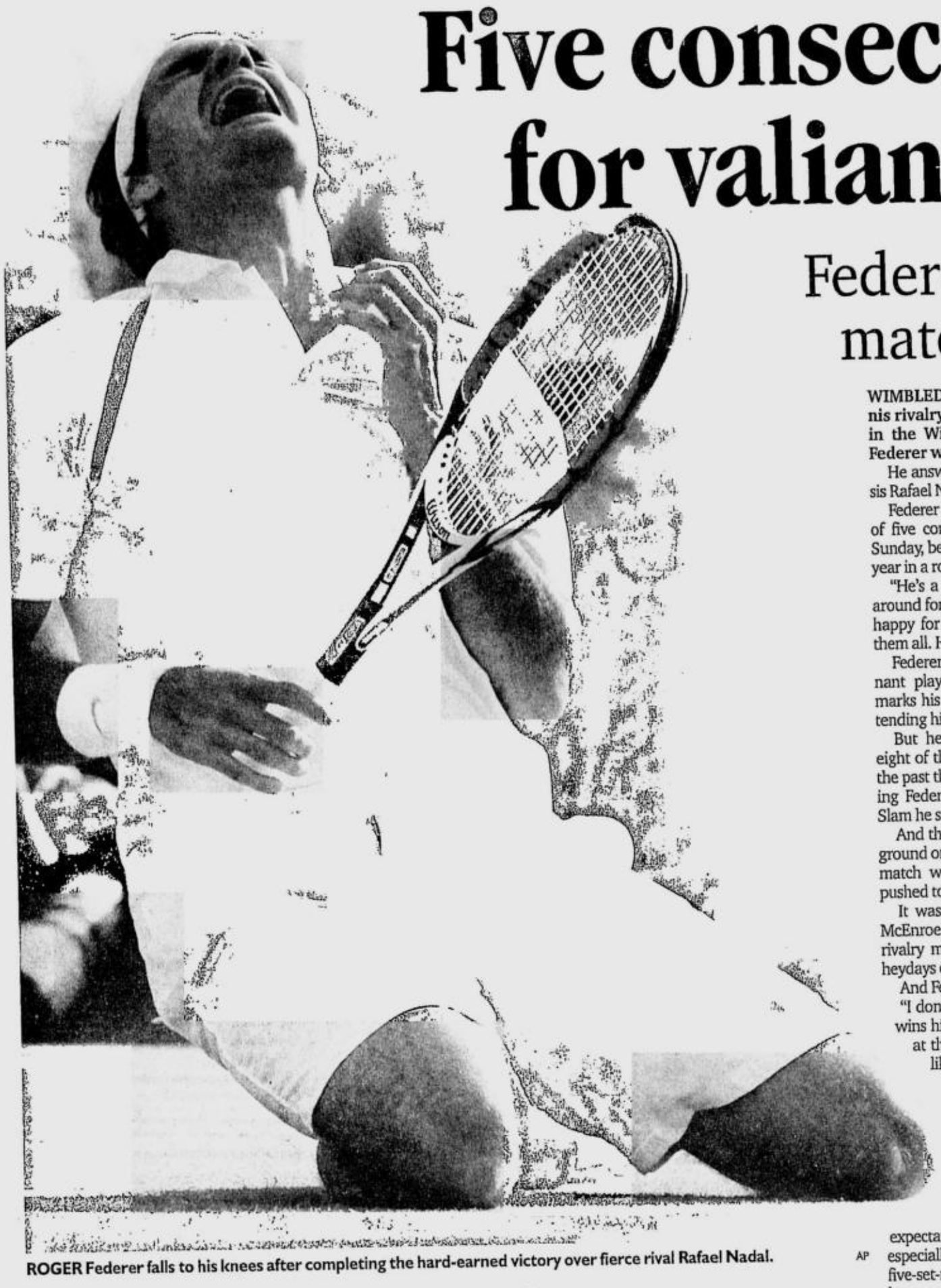
Competition will be divided into two categories—A for all levels and B for low bowlers.

At stake are trophies, cash and special prizes including roundtrip plane tickets (Milan-Manila-Milan) for the A and B champions.

"We have arranged this event primarily for the benefit of our youth," said Chan. "We see bowling and other sports activities not only as a means of recreation, but more as a tool for unity."

Five consecutive crowns for valiant King Roger

Federer defuses Nadal bombs, matches Borg's supreme feat



ROGER Federer falls to his knees after completing the hard-earned victory over fierce rival Rafael Nadal. AP

WIMBLEDON, ENGLAND—THE BEST TENnis rivalry in years blossomed a little more in the Wimbledon final, and even Roger Federer was happy about it.

He answered the latest challenge from nemesis Rafael Nadal beautifully.

Federer matched Bjorn Borg's modern record of five consecutive Wimbledon men's titles on Sunday, beating Nadal in the final for the second year in a row, 7-6 (7), 4-6, 7-6 (3), 2-6, 6-2.

"He's a fantastic player, and he's going to be around for so much longer," Federer said. "So I'm happy for every one I get now, before he takes them all. He's improving so much."

Federer continues to reign as the game's dominant player, and not only on grass. Monday marks his 180th in a row atop the rankings, extending his record.

But he has struggled against Nadal, losing eight of their 13 matches. That includes each of the past three years at the French Open, preventing Federer from completing the career Grand Slam he so badly wants.

And the No. 2-ranked Nadal is clearly gaining ground on grass. For the first time in Federer's 34-match winning streak at Wimbledon, he was pushed to five sets.

It was an epic reminiscent of Borg vs John McEnroe or Jimmy Connors, fueling the kind of rivalry missing from the men's game since the heydays of Pete Sampras and Andre Agassi.

And Federer said he enjoys the rivalry.

"I don't mind it," he said. "I win my share. He wins his. It's a good rivalry, I think. We've been at the top for over 100 weeks together. It is like building up to one of maybe the great rivalries."

Sunday's showdown was their most dramatic yet, given the stakes, and the best-played. Federer hit 65 winners and only 34 unforced errors. Nadal had 50 winners and just 24 unforced errors.

"We sometimes haven't lived up to the expectations in the past, in our matches in majors especially," Federer said. "You can't always play five-set-match thrillers, you know. I'm happy it happened today. I left as the winner—was perfect."

First man

Nadal was trying to become the first man to win the French Open and Wimbledon back-to-back since Borg from 1978-80. Instead, Federer became the first man to win five consecutive Wimbledon titles since Borg from 1976-80, and the second in the past 100 years.

"It cannot happen to a nicer guy. No bad feelings," Borg said before the match.

"He's an artist on this surface. He can stay back. He can come in. No weaknesses. I believe if he continues the way he's doing and stays away from injuries and has the motivation, he'll be the greatest player ever to play the game."

The women's champion was familiar, too. Venus Williams claimed her fourth Wimbledon title on Saturday, beating Marion Bartoli, 6-4, 6-1.

NADAL: Clearly gaining ground despite loss. AP

Federer needs two more Wimbledon titles to match Sampras' modern men's record of seven. Making the latest championship even sweeter: It came against Nadal, who ended Federer's 27-match Grand Slam winning streak four weeks ago at Roland Garros. Since the start of 2005, Federer is 5-7 against Nadal, 204-7 against everyone else.

They've met in four of the past six major finals. Federer said Nadal played better on Sunday than in the Wimbledon final a year ago, which Federer won in four sets.

Phenomenal

"He's playing phenomenal tennis," Federer said. "He has definitely improved yet again, I think. He had more of a game plan this year than he had last year. I think last year he came out, nothing to lose, kind of hit hard but didn't know why.

"This year around, he has changed his game a little bit, plays maybe a bit more aggressive, knows the game of grass much better. That's why I think he's not only just a good clay-courter, he's a good all-around player."

Nadal said the rivalry remains in the formative stages, noting there's no comparisons between his achievements and those of Federer, who at 25 is four years older.

"He has 11 Grand Slams, me three," Nadal said. "But, well, I am young. I am improving every season and try continuing improving every day.

Next week the hard-court season begins, and the rivalry has yet to really take hold on that surface. Federer and Nadal have never met at the US Open, but the matchup is a good possibility for this year's final, when Federer would be seeking his 12th Grand Slam title. *AP*

Murray scores for Britain

LONDON—BRITAIN'S 20-YEAR WAIT to celebrate a Wimbledon champion ended on Sunday when Jamie Murray teamed up with Serbia's Jelena Jankovic to win the mixed doubles title.

They defeated fifth seeds Jonas Bjorkman of Sweden and Australia's Alicia Molik, 6-4, 3-6, 6-1, in the last match of the 2007 Championships.

Britain's last All England Club success came in 1987 when Jeremy Bates and Joe Durie lifted the same trophy.

It was a major achievement for Murray whose younger brother Andy is widely tipped as a future Grand Slam winner but had to sit out Wimbledon with a wrist injury.

The elder Murray said none was more surprised than himself by the title.

"I can't honestly ever think that I would or say that I thought I would win one, especially this year, and also in the mixed doubles," he said.

Murray, 21, a doubles specialist who made his Davis Cup debut earlier this year, revealed afterwards that he had not received any advice from his brother, the world number eight.

Jankovic, who lost to Marion Bartoli in the fourth round of the women's singles, admitted that a first Grand Slam victory was especially sweet.

In the men's doubles, Michael Llodra and Arnaud Clement dethroned defending champions and top seeds Bob and Mike Bryan to become the first all-French pair to win the title in 74 years.

Cara Black and Leizel Huber won their second Wimbledon women's doubles title together beating Katarina Srebotnik and Ai Sugiyama in three sets. *AFP*

Choi tops PGA Nat'l, seeks 1st major win

BETHESDA, MARYLAND—K.J. CHOI captured the biggest victory of his career Sunday by winning the inaugural PGA National, the second time in five weeks the South Korean star won a tournament hosted by a legend.

Five weeks after winning Jack Nicklaus' signature Memorial event, Choi took the first PGA event hosted by Tiger Woods and boosted his belief that he can become Asia's first major champion with the British Open just two weeks away.

Choi's best major finish was third at the 2004 Masters, the same year he managed his best British Open finish with a share of 16th at Royal Troon. He missed the US Open cut last month and shared 27th at the Masters last April.

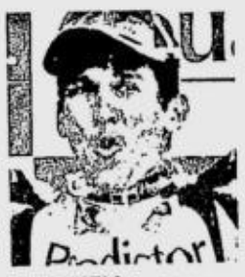
Choi chipped in for birdie from a greenside bunker at the 17th hole to seal the victory, firing a final-round two-under par 68 to finish on nine-under 271 and defeat US veteran Steve Stricker by three strokes.

The triumph was Choi's sixth career US PGA title. Choi won the top purse of $1.08 million.

Australian Stuart Appleby fired a 76 to share third with Americans Jim Furyk and Pat Perez on 277 with Woods and Aussie Robert Allenby another stroke back. *AFP*

TIGER Woods (right) hands over to K.J. Choi the championship trophy. REUTERS

McEwen does an Armstrong, tops 1st stage



MCEWEN

CANTERBURY, ENGland—Lance Armstrong knew a thing or two about how to bounce back from a crash to win a stage at the Tour de France.

On Sunday, Robbie McEwen showed he does too.

The Australian sprint ace showed his grit by winning Sunday's first stage in a much needed display of athletic ability for a sport battling to overcome an image problem because of various doping scandals.

McEwen clocked 4 hours, 39 minutes, 1 second for the mostly flat 203-kilometer (126-mile) ride to Canterbury from London, where the Tour began Saturday with a time-trial prologue.

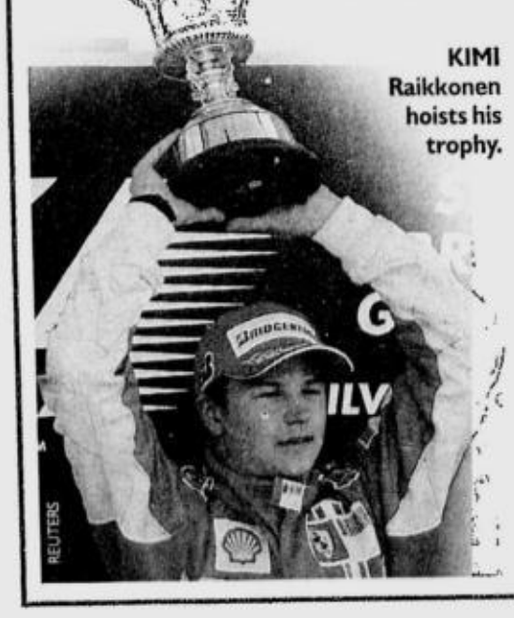
With just 20 kilometers (12 miles) to go, McEwen was forced to break due to riders ahead, and was hit by a cyclist from behind—sending him tumbling over his handlebars and onto the road.

Pressing on despite an aching right wrist and cuts on his right knee, McEwen was escorted by his Predictor Lotto teammates through the final meters (yards).

Armstrong's similar stage win was a one-man effort in the mountains in 2003. On the way up to the Pyrenean ski station of Luz-Ardiden, Armstrong tumbled to the ground when his handlebars got caught on a fan's outstretched bag. He got back up, rode like a man possessed and won.

Switzerland's Fabian Cancellara retained the overall leader's yellow jersey, which he earned in the prologue, with an overall time of 4:47:51. Germany's Andreas Kloeden is second overall, 13 seconds back. *AP*

Hot Raikkonen clinches British GP



KIMI Raikkonen hoists his trophy. REUTERS

SILVERSTONE, ENGLAND—KIMI Raikkonen and Fernando Alonso had differing views on whether the better car or the better strategy won the British Grand Prix. It was easy to tell who was the winner and who was the loser.

Alonso conceded the lead during his second pit stop on Sunday. Raikkonen stayed out longer with a larger fuel load, and ended up winning his second straight Formula One race.

"Maybe I was slightly quicker forgetting the fuel loads that we saw today. And in the race they were slightly quicker," Alonso said. "Maybe starting in front of them was just enough to win the race or maybe not."

Raikkonen answered: "It doesn't make any difference anymore. We were first, they were second."

'We' was Ferrari, which helped Raikkonen win his series-leading third race of the season.

'They' were two-time defending world champion Alonso and McLaren teammate Lewis Hamilton, whose third place was his ninth successive podium finish in nine races.

"I have had a wicked season so far," Hamilton said after his first F1 race on his home track at Silverstone.

Only Michael Schumacher and Alonso have done better in consecutive podium finishes. Schumacher had 19 for Ferrari in 2001-02, and Alonso had 15 for Renault in 2005-06.

Hamilton continued to lead the drivers' standings with 70 points, followed by Alonso on 58, Raikkonen at 52 and his Ferrari teammate Felipe Massa on 51.

There were eight races remaining, starting with the European Grand Prix on July 22 in Germany. It was formerly called the German Grand Prix before a conflict among organizers.

Hamilton used his pole position to lead for the first 16 laps. Alonso took over the lead after Hamilton and Raikkonen pitted but after Alonso went in for his second stop on lap 37, Raikkonen moved to the front by not pitting until the 43rd.

Last week at the French GP, Raikkonen moved ahead of Massa after the second stop. *AP*

SPORTS

Wily Willie has inside track to MVP trophy

FIVE YEARS SINCE FIRST WINning a PBA Most Valuable Player plum, Willie Miller is at it again, leading five other players for the league's highest individual honor.

As the 2006-07 season draws to a close, the Alaska guard tops the list of MVP contenders that also include Talk 'N Text's Mac Cardona, Sta. Lucia's Kelly Williams, the Air21 pair of Arwind Santos and Gary David and last year's winner James Yap of Purefoods.

"This is the time of the year when the PBA honors the best players who shone brightest during the season," said league commissioner Noli Eala.

Miller, already the league MVP in 2002 with Red Bull, hopes to emulate Ramon Fernandez, Alvin Patrimonio, William Adornado, Alberto Guidaben, Benjie Paras and Danny Ildefonso as among the few players to have won the coveted award twice or more.

Referees' 'ridiculous' calls make Cone cringe

GAME TOMORROW (*Araneta Coliseum*)
7 p.m.—Alaska vs Talk 'N Text

By Musong R. Castillo

PLAYING IN A TITLE SERIES FOR THE 19TH time in a storied career, Tim Cone knows what is required of him.

"This is the Finals, and even though we lost, I'm available to all of you," Cone told reporters after walking into the pressroom, a few minutes after taking a 113-120 loss at the hands of Talk 'N Text Sunday night that squared the best-of-seven PBA Fiesta Cup series at 1-all.

CONE: Touch fouls

While most coaches, including himself, are excused from appearing before the press after losing a non-Finals game, Cone knew that being in this situation, it was time to make the adjustments.

He couldn't say the same, though, about the referees.

"The thing that upsets me the most is whether this series will be dictated by the players or the referees," Cone said. "There's a lot of grandstanding by the referees. They make bad calls all the time.

"This is not an attractive series," the 11-time champion added. "This is not the way to play a playoff game. The intensity here is higher and that means there will be more contact.

"They are calling those silly touch fouls which they should not. This is playoff basketball, and the energy is raised several notches at this level.

"This is even worse than the San Miguel Beer (versus Alaska semifinal) series."

In that series, the referees called 75 fouls in one game, resulting in 97 free throw attempts for both squads. On Sunday, there were a total of 69 fouls whistled, 41 of them from Alaska.

And this translated into a total of 79 free throws—49 for the Phone Pals, which slowed the game down. Incidentally, the Phone Pals missed a season-high 22 of their tries.

"This has gone down to a free throw shooting contest and that's ugly," Cone said. "Let the players play. Let there be some contact because, frankly speaking, this has gotten ridiculous."

Game 3 of the series is scheduled tomorrow at 7 p.m., shortly after the league hands out the tourney's Best Player and Best Import awards.

Pro Gear Golf
#33 Upper Level, Goldcrest Building
Ayala Center, Makati City 1221
Tel.Nos.893-7646/813-3186 Fax No.812-8651
Email: progear_golfmart@yahoo.com
Cell No. 0917-8477646
USED CLUBS
BUY TRADE CONSIGN
New arrivals of used Golf Clubs from Japan & U.S.A.

Iligan five rallies, pips Tagaytay

OZAMIZ CITY—Firefly Iligan's Crusaders came from behind to nose out Tagaytay Spring Cooking Oil, 85-82, Sunday night and move up to solo second in the 2007 Spring-NBC National Cup basketball tournament at the Gov. Angel Medina Sr. gym here.

STANDINGS	W	L
Ozamiz	12	4
Iligan	11	4
Tagaytay	11	5
GenSan	9	6
Pagadian	8	8
Davao	6	10
Valencia	5	11
Quezon	5	11
Iloilo	2	11

The Cooking Oil Masters of NBC president Nathaniel "Tac" Padilla and league EVP Mayor Bambol Tolentino controlled the game for 39 minutes, but crumbled in the closing seconds to sustain a big blow in their bid to gain an outright semifinal spot.

A steal by rookie Ian Saladaga led to a fastbreak layup by Arden Guiyab that tied the score at 82. After Spring failed to score in the next play, it was forced to foul and give the Crusaders the chance to complete their comeback.

"I have to give it to the boys, they refused to lose," said coach Eric Samsom of the Iligan five which is owned by Mayor Lawrence Cruz and supported by former Sen. Ralph Recto.

Iligan must beat Iloilo in its final game to make it to the semifinals.

The scores:

ILIGAN 85—Marata 23, Cruz 19, Mangahas 9, Kalaw 6, Matias 5, Cabili 4, Go 4, Saladaga 4, Ayodelle 3, Hardin 1, Gatchalian 0.

TAGAYTAY 82—Mallari 17, Rodriguez 14, Marquez 11, Reyes 9, Legaspi 9, Tajonera 8, De Castro 4, Bolocon 4, Yambao 3, Epondulan 3, Munoz 0, Victolero 0.

Quarters: 19-27, 45-50, 66-69, 85-82

Northwoods posts sweep over Orchard

STANDINGS (win-loss-draw-game points)

Group I—Alabang 3-0-1-8, Highlands 3-1-0-7, Malarayat 1-2-0-3, Valley 0-1-1-3, Southwoods 0-4-0

Group II—Northwoods 3-1-1-10, Wack Wack 3-1-1-7, Sherwood Hills 3-1-1-7, Canlubang 3-3-0-6, John Hay 2-3-0-5, Orchard 0-5-0

Group III—Forest Hills 4-0-0-10, Riviera 3-1-7, Eastridge 1-2-1-4, Sta. Elena 1-3-0-3, Mimosa 0-3-1-1

ROYAL NORTHWOODS BLANKED A HAPless Orchard for its second sweep win even as Sta. Elena finally broke into the win column with a 4-1 rout of Mimosa in the Federation Golf League 2007 matches recently.

Rodel Mangulabnan-Sixto Sengson, Boying Rosagas-Von Sarmiento, Omar Dungca-Brian Donato, Junie Fontanilla-Richard Joson and Boy Ungson-Danny Dalija all won their matches against Orchard rivals, thrusting the former champions back into the lead in Group 2 with 10 points.

Valley, meanwhile, spoiled Alabang's quest for a fourth straight victory with a 2.5-2.5 draw in Group 1 to boost its qualifying bid. The draw left Forest Hills as the only team with a perfect record.

Valley and Alabang split the first two formats with the fifth, the scramble pitting Caloy Coscolluela-Monto Briones against Matt Mendoza-Joey Lerma ending in a draw.

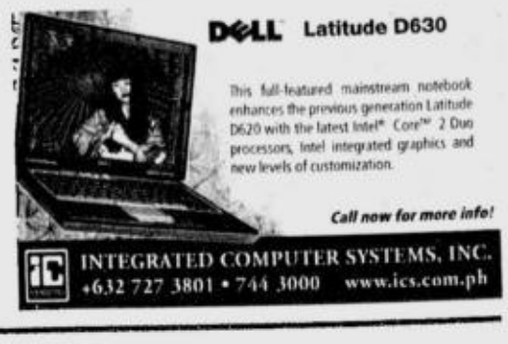
Canlubang nipped Sherwood Hills, 3-2.

Website: www.inquirer.net/business

BUSINESS

Editor Raul O. Marcelo • Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma

Text us your feedback: inquirer biz name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) E-mail: business@inquirer.com.ph



Gov't line agencies to raise charges soon

Units incur losses due to failure to keep in step with expenses

By Michelle V. Remo

GOVERNMENT LINE AGENCIES WILL SOON BE given their marching orders to raise fees and charges collected from the public, as expected revenue from the concerned units appears to be falling short of official targets.

According to the Department of Finance, the lower-than-expected collection of fees and charges was partly to blame for the national government's failure to stick to its budget deficit target for the first half.

Data from the DOF showed that, as of January to May, revenue from the combined collections of fees and charges by government agencies reached only P7.98 billion. The amount was less than the P11.195 billion target set for the first quarter alone.

Collections as of the first five months meant that the government agencies should turn in a combined P11.995 billion in June alone just to meet the first half target of 19.975 billion.

For the entire year, the government has set a target of P36.5 billion from the collection of fees and charges.

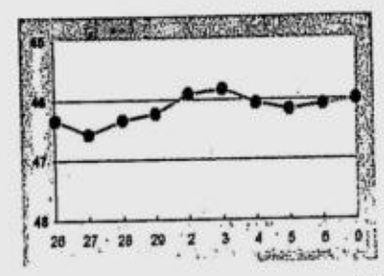
This year's targeted collection of fees and charges is consistent with the goal of limiting the budget deficit for 2007 at P63 billion.

Some of the biggest revenue contributors are: The Land Transportation Office, much of whose revenue is derived from the issuance of driver's licenses; the Department of Foreign Affairs, which

GOV'T/ B5

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

₱46.00 = $1

As of 5 p.m., July 9, 2007

¥123.46 = $1

As of 5 p.m., July 9, 2007

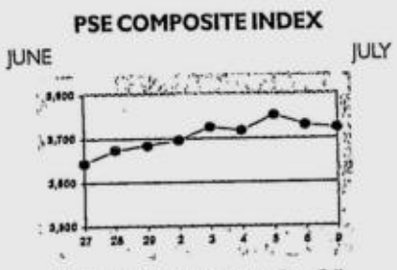
GOLD: $648.50-649.00

per ounce Hong Kong, July 6, 2007

STOCK MARKET

Shares close 0.39% lower

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



SHARE PRICES YESTERday closed 0.39 percent lower in a lackluster trade, with investors cashing in on recent gains, dealers said.

Investors also stayed on the sidelines while awaiting fresh leads, and the release of corporate results for the second quarter due to start later this month, they said. The composite index finished down 14.79 points at 3,744.05, coming off a high of 3,779.20 before profit-taking.

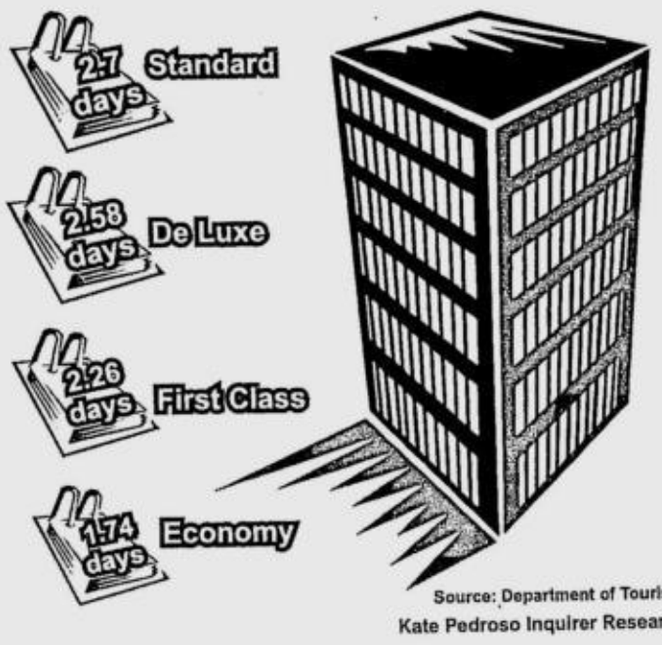
(See stock market report on Page B4)

SHARES/ B2

INQUIRER MONITOR

Figures that matter in our nation's life

Average length of stay in hotels
(By hotel classification, January to March 2007)



Source: Department of Tourism
Kate Pedroso Inquirer Research

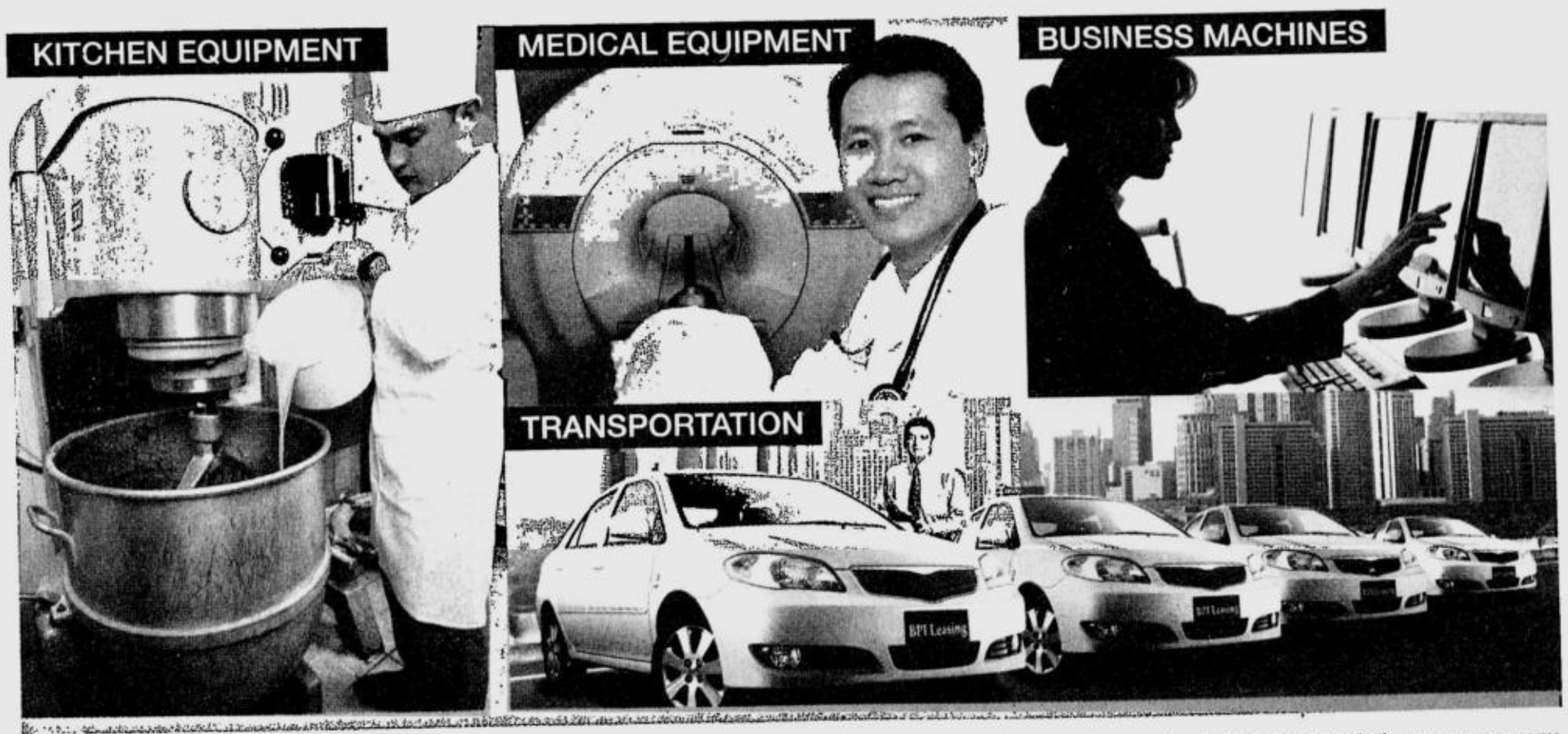
IN THIS ISSUE

Lucio Tan group acquires New York Life /B3

Is trouble brewing? /B4

Gov't exempts exporters from travel tax /B8

Only BPI Leasing provides you with wiser options beneficial to your business.



Every business needs the right tools to help it grow. Hospitals need medical equipment. Offices need business machines. Corporations need car fleets. Construction, printing and manufacturing companies need heavy machineries. But purchasing major assets can be financially difficult. BPI Leasing is your better alternative to buying. By allowing you to use specific assets with low cash outlay, BPI Leasing allows you to conserve your capital and thereby increase the cash flow in your business. ***For most businesses, leasing is the wiser option.***

Only the leader can give you the right business solutions your company needs. Choose from these options:

FINANCE Lease – BPI Leasing purchases the equipment you need. You then use the equipment in return for a series of rental repayments. The asset appears on your balance sheet during the lease period, with the lease obligation booked as a liability.

OPERATING Lease – BPI Leasing will pre-approve the asset to be leased. You may use the asset and return or re-lease it at the end of the lease term. The asset will not appear on your balance sheet and monthly rentals are treated as expense.

Payment terms: The minimum lease term is 2 years. Rentals are paid monthly in advance and are calculated based on the net cost of the asset.

Go for THE WISER OPTION.

Contact the leader in leasing, BPI LEASING CORPORATION, at 845-5630; 816-9261; or 816-9124.

BPI Leasing Corporation

The Leader in Leasing.

At BPI Leasing, we'll lend your business the hand it needs to grow.

BPI
We'll take you farther.

BIR stumbles on more tax delinquent firms

Revenue agency urged to cancel business registrations of non-paying companies

By Michelle V. Remo

THE BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE HAS received a proposal from one of its revenue district offices to cancel the registration of businesses that have not been paying taxes nor submitting tax returns for the past two years.

Rey Asterio Tambis, revenue district officer for North Quezon City, said in an interview that his office has discovered that many businesses that have not been paying taxes are still operating.

He noted that over 3,000 of the estimated 10,000 companies in his district have not been remitting taxes since 2005. But, contrary to earlier assumptions that these have shut down, most of them are found to be still in business.

The RDO learned of this development when they cleaned up and updated its taxpayers database. The cleanup was supposed to help the RDO identify possible tax cheats.

"In cases like this, there is a double whammy for the government: for one, taxes are not collected from these non-filers; and for another, receipts they issue to clients are even used for claiming input VAT (value-added tax) credits," Tambis told the INQUIRER.

If the BIR would make a public list of dormant taxpayers and cancel their registration, then their clients would be encouraged to look for other suppliers. This way, the government will not have to refund input VAT credits arising from purchases from tax-delinquent companies.

Tambis also said companies that have not been remitting taxes would be forced to finally come out in the open and settle their liabilities once they face the threat of having their registration canceled and of having this cancellation known by the public.

Under the VAT system, a corporate entity is allowed to declare the amount of VAT it pays every time it purchases goods from a supplier, and then deduct the amount from its tax liabilities.

Tambis also noted that there were instances when dormant corporate taxpayers were still applying for authority to print receipts.

"Why should they need receipts when they are no longer operating?" he said.

Tambis said his office surmised that unscrupulous people were using receipts to make it appear that smuggled items come from domestic suppliers.

Tambis said his proposal for the cancellation of BIR permits of dormant taxpayers is up for discussion at the BIR's management committee.

He said if all RDOs were to implement a cleanup of its database and go after the liabilities of dormant taxpayers, the entire BIR could ease the huge shortfall it has so far recorded in the first half.

The BIR, the main revenue earner of the government, is tasked to collect P765 billion in taxes for this year. But as of the first half, the revenue agency has fallen short of its goal, resulting in concerns that the government might breach its deficit ceiling for the year.

In January to June, the BIR fell short of its P373-billion target by P40 billion.

CLEAN LIGHT US Ambassador Kristie Kenney tours Sunpower's solar cell manufacturing plant in Laguna. Flanking her are Tetchie Cruz-Capellan, program chief of Amore (Alliance for Mindanao Off-grid Renewable Energy), and Greg Reichow, Sunpower managing director.

MRT-7 not a sure deal, DOTC exec says

By Riza T. Olchondra

HAVING NO CHALLENGERS IS NO assurance that the original proponent of the $1.23-billion MRT-7 project will undertake the biggest infrastructure deal under the Arroyo administration, transport officials said over the weekend.

The main proponent is Universal LRT Corp. (ULC), a consortium led by EL International Holdings, a member of the EL Group of Companies of Hong Kong under Eli Levin, who was also the main proponent of MRT-3.

ULC's proposed project was up for a "Swiss Challenge" under the Build-Operate-Transfer Law last month but challengers Sumitomo Corp., World Chi Finance Group and Izumo Contractors failed to submit a better bid.

The transportation department committee in charge of the project will now submit the results to Transport Secretary Leandro Mendoza, who is tasked to recommend the project's approval to the Cabinet-level Investment Coordination Committee.

This recommendation will then await the signature of President Macapagal-Arroyo. The $1.23-billion MRT-7 project is due to be finished by 2012.

Connected to MRT-3 North Avenue station in Quezon City, MRT-7 is 23 kilometers long with 14 stations. The line will traverse Commonwealth Avenue and Quirino Avenue extension up to San Jose del Monte, Bulacan.

It will also have a 22-km access road, and a real estate component with SM Investments of retail giant Henry Sy.

Shares close 0.39% lower

From page B1

Turnover was 2.8 billion shares worth P3.2 billion ($69.5 million).

Declines led gains 64 to 44, with 64 stocks unchanged.

"A number of public offerings this month are expected to suck liquidity out of the market," said Lawrence de Leon of Unicapital Securities. "At the same time, the market is taking a break before the release of fresh economic data and second-quarter results."

Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co., the biggest Philippine company by market capitalization, fell P40 to P2,675.

Top-traded Ayala Land Inc. was down 25 centavos at P17.50.

Manila Electric Co.'s A-shares retreated P3.00 to P108 while its B-shares shed P2.00 at P109.

San Miguel Corp. A shares were unchanged at P75.50 while the B shares fell P1.00 to P83.00. *AFP*

Subic yet so small

BREAKTIME

Conrado R. Banal III

DO YOU THINK THAT THE BUREAU OF Customs knows about this solid case of fuel smuggling—by the millions of liters, at that—over at the Subic Freeport?

Next question: What is Customs doing about it?

From what I heard, Gloriaetta already gave somebody a dressing down for the much talked about smuggling at the Freeport.

The Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) already found airtight evidence on the smuggling.

In fact, SBMA already calculated the amount of taxes and duties that the modus operandi is costing this cute administration of Gloriaetta.

And it's only more than P500 million so far this year!

As a rule, fuel coming into the country through the Subic Freeport must stay at the SBMA area. One fortunate fuel importer (a company that, according to our sources, also sells second-hand equipment, and whose owner, with initials "JL," happens to be the "compadre" of a big shot at the SMBA) takes the tax-free fuel out of Subic, supposedly for use by ocean-going vessels docked at the Port of Manila.

Now, as far as I know, those vessels use bunker fuel. Guess what was taken out of Subic by the millions of liters? Right, diesel!

According to records collated by the SBMA, the lucky son-of-his-mother smuggler was able to slip out of the free port some 60 trucks a day over a long stretch.

Meaning, it was not a sinall operation. And it could not be a lapse in law enforcement.

Since it is so big, somebody must already be turning a blind eye somewhere.

* * *

FOREIGN AFFAIRS Secretary Alberto Romulo found a way to charge us dearly for our passports.

Remember that the Department of Foreign Affairs issues about 7,000 passports a day. I mean, come on, this passport thing is big business!

I only found out about Romulo's new business strategy, because the good secretary wrote the Department of Justice, asking for an opinion on a certain "donation."

The issue involves a French company called Hologram Industries SA, which would be giving the DFA—for free—a "machine" for the so-called machine-readable passports, or MRP.

Romulo asked the DOF whether or not the, er, "donation" was legal, considering the court cases over the controversial DFA project to introduce the MRP.

The DFA already contracted out the MRP project to a company called BCA before Romulo became the boss. When the DFA cancelled the contract, whatever it is that hits the fan really had hit the fan.

And so, for whatever ungodly reason, Romulo supposedly asked Justice Secretary Raul Gonzales to "forget" to number the legal opinion that the DFA wanted.

An "un-numbered" legal ruling means that the DOJ opinion could not be released to the public. Sorry, boss, no dice!

Still, the DOF was not too definitive in its opinion, in effect, saying that the donation was legal, as long as the DFA followed certain other executive orders, with which the donation unfortunately could not comply.

What Romulo forgot to mention to the DOJ were probably the strings attached to the donation. You know, the supply of the laminates for the MRP.

Now, an issue of overpricing erupted on the same laminates, which were to be provided by the same company that cornered the supply of security paper to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

That was courtesy of a certain "FC," whose family owns the company called Star Paper, which happens to be the local agent of—what else—a French company.

I'll give you one good guess on its name.

* * *

METHINKS THE PCGG should just concentrate on cases against the Marcos family (plus their cronies) in which it has solid evidence. Then we have a better chance of getting back Marcos "hidden wealth."

Instead, the PCGG wastes a lot of time, effort, and money (meaning, taxpayer's money) on cases anchored on rumors.

Call center companies in Mindanao fear piracy, shortage of manpower

By Judy Quiros
Inquirer Mindanao

DAVAO CITY—AT LEAST THREE MAJOR call center companies are planning to put up facilities here, raising fears of manpower piracy.

Andre Fournier, chair of the information and communications technology committee of the Davao City Chamber of Commerce and Industry Inc. (DCCCII), said call centers in Metro Manila were already beset with the problem of employee poaching. Instead of strengthening competition, it is staggering the industry, he said.

Pirating of employees has even caused the growing IT industry in India to dwindle, he said.

The city has five existing call centers, two of them categorized as "big."

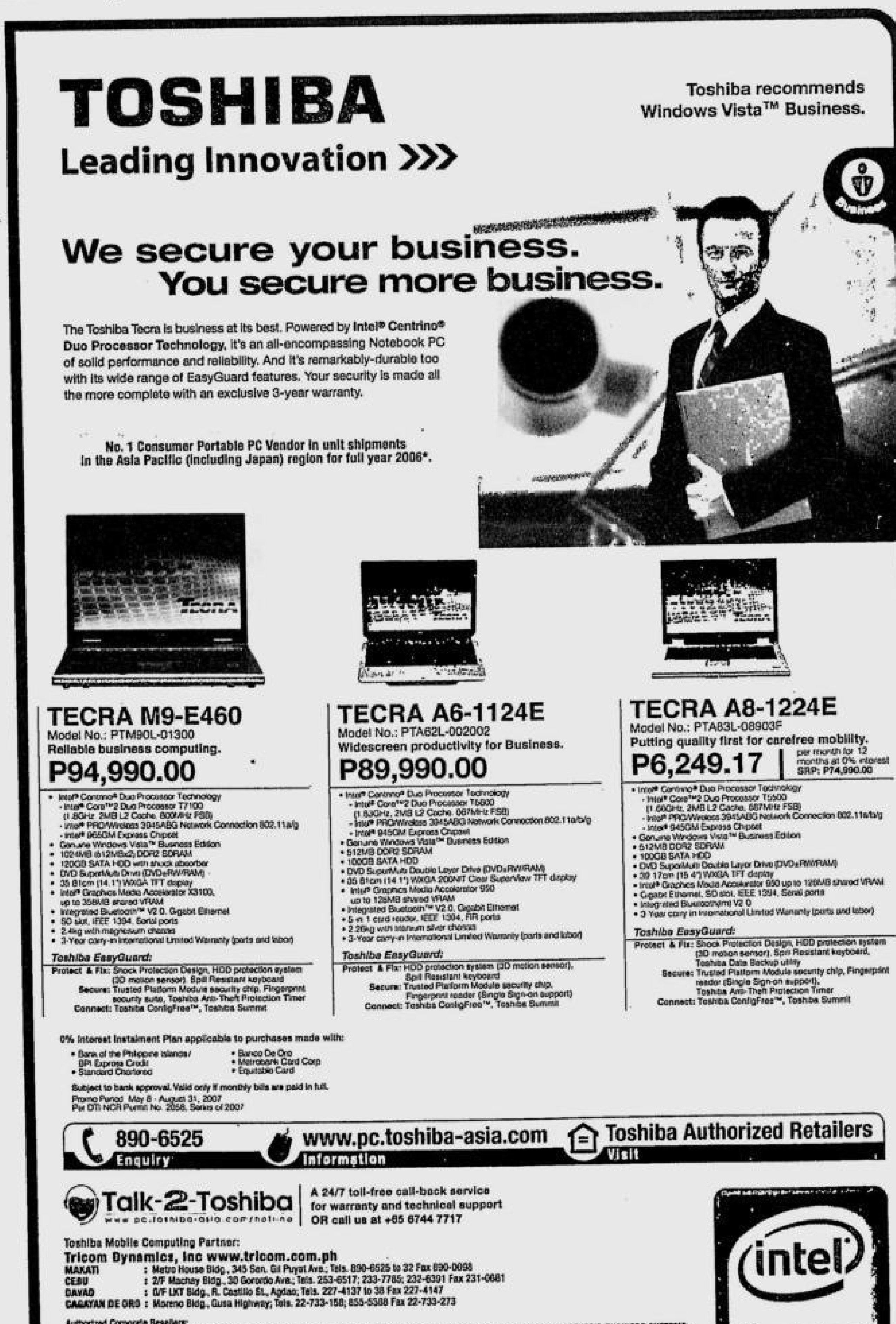
G-Com Ltd. and Link 2 Support Fournier were the most apprehensive over the coming of three similarly big IT firms, including the US-based Sutherland Global Services, Fournier said.

Because of this grim scenario, the DCCCII has worked with existing call centers to prevent the booming industry from degenerating, he said.

The chamber's "efforts formed part of its commitment to position Davao City on top of the IT environment this year," the official said. These included the drafting of a memorandum of agreement among call center companies for the equitable distribution of call agents to thwart poaching, he said.

"The MOA will request call center operators to work together and look at competition from a constructive point of view," Fournier said.

CALL CENTER/B3



Lucio Tan group acquires New York Life

Allied Bank raises stake in insurance firm to 75%, bullish on bancassurance

By Elizabeth Sanchez-Lacson

TAIPAN LUCIO TAN, THROUGH ALLIED Banking Corporation and its major stockholders, has signed an agreement to acquire New York Life Insurance (Phils.), Inc.

NYLIP said in a statement yesterday that through a share purchase agreement with New York Life International, LLC, Allied Bank will increase its stake in NYLIP to 75 percent from 25 percent.

The remaining 25 percent in NYLIP will also be acquired by major Allied Bank shareholders led by Tan.

After approval of the sale by the Philippine Insurance Commission, New York Life International will no longer have any shares in NYLIP.

The acquisition value was not disclosed.

NYLIP and Allied Bank got together in 2002 because of bancassurance, a promising life insurance distribution channel wherein insurance policies are sold through bank branches.

"This is a very positive development for Allied Bank and our policyholders," said Reynaldo Maclang, Allied Bank president. "We saw an opportunity to build upon our successful banccassurance channel and extend our reach throughout the Philippine life insurance market. Since our policyholders are our most important assets, the company will continue to serve and honor its commitments to its clients. Moving forward, we are dedicated to improving our services by adding new, innovative products that meet our clients' diverse requirements."

John Harrison, New York Life International chief executive officer for the Asia Region said New York Life enjoyed a strong and successful relationship with Allied Bank.

"When Allied Bank expressed interest in owning a life insurance company, New York Life International decided to move forward with the sale of its stake to its long-time partner," he added.

"New York Life is proud of what it has accomplished in the Philippines. The company remains a good friend to many Filipinos and we continue to have a high level of confidence in the country's economic and commercial potential, particularly the insurance sector. In the meantime, New York Life remains committed to our international strategy and the other Asian and Latin American markets where we have a presence," Harrison said.

New York Life ranks in the top two life and health insurance companies in the world based on Fortune's "World's Most Admired Companies" survey published in March 2007.

Allied Bank is the ninth largest in terms of resources among private commercial banks in the Philippines.

DA raises palay output target

By Amy R. Remo

THE DEPARTMENT of Agriculture targets to raise *palay* production to 19 million metric tons by 2010 through the Ginintuang Masaganang Ani Rice program.

This is seen to increase the agriculture sector's annual growth to 5-6 percent over the next three years.

GMA Executive Director Frisco Malabanan said that for 2008, the DA expects *palay* production to reach 17.158 million MT, boosting the country's rice sufficiency level to 92.83 percent.

By 2009, *palay* production is seen to hit 18.205 million MT.

Malabanan said these targets are possible and achievable through the continued implementation of the hybrid seed program, the repair and rehabilitation of irrigation facilities, and construction of more postharvest facilities and farm-to-market roads.

The DA would also continue to provide *palay* farmers with financial assistance of P1,000 per 20 kilos of hybrid seeds and P440 per 40 kilos of certified seeds, added Malabanan.

To complement this program, the National Irrigation Administration will rehabilitate irrigation facilities covering 41,209 hectares of farmland.

NIA is also restoring national and communal systems that will cover 55,000 hectares of irrigated land in 2007, he said.

Call ...

From page B2

It also empowered IT schools to recommend qualified graduates to work in call centers.

Fournier said reasonable salary, better workplace and security are among the factors considered to prevent piracy.

Earlier, Teolulo Pasawa, chief of the local Department of Trade and Industry, said the strengthening of the peso had been pushing call centers to move out of Metro Manila because of cheaper labor and availability of infrastructures accredited by the Philippine Export Zone Authority (Peza).

The Peza has already accredited the Damosa IT Park in Lanang here.

Officials have forecast that the mushrooming of call centers in the city would bring in over P1 billion in revenues and generate some 16,000 jobs by 2010.

Joji Ilagan-Bian, owner of the JIB e-Academy, said the rosy forecast prompted her call center training facility to expand operations in other parts of Mindanao.

FOR SALE
JATROPHA SEEDS & SEEDLINGS
Pls. call: (02) 926-7036 (Quezon City)
or (0922) 883-1051
Ask for: Ely Barcarse or Jolly Siapno

SECURE your office from THEFT & FRAUD!
Access Control & Timekeeping Devices
with Payroll Software for 30 employees.*
U.are.U P 7,900 VAT INC
• PC Based Fingerprint Device
• With DTR Software
with Payroll Software for 30 employees.*
OA-101 P 9,900 VAT INC
• Standalone Fingerprint Device
• With DTR Software
with Payroll Software for 50 employees.*
OA-101 P 12,500 VAT INC
• With Built-in Back-up Battery
• Standalone Fingerprint Device
• USB 2.0 connection for downloading
with Payroll Software for 100 employees.*
AV-100 P 19,000 VAT INC
• With Built-in Back-Up Battery
• Built-in USB or TCP/IP slot
• Standalone Fingerprint Device
• With DTR Software
• Access Control Ready
with Payroll Software for 100 employees.*
OA2000 Fingerprint with LCD
• Embedded with Windows CE OS
• TCP/IP Connection
• Access Control Ready
• 1,800 Fingerprints, 100,000 transaction
• Password + Fingerprint Verification
• Displays Employees' Pictures
FE900 Fingerprint T&A Access Control
• Password + Fingerprint Verification
• TCP/IP Connection
• Access Control Ready
• 1,800 Fingerprints, 100,000 transaction
with Payroll Software for 100 employees.*
*Get a Payroll Pro Software, for every purchase of any timekeeping and access control device. Package exclusive of training and other services. Maximum of 1 licensed copy of Payroll Pro software per company. For more employees you can avail of higher versions of Mustard Seed Payroll Pro software
MUSTARD Seed SYSTEMS CORPORATION www.mseedsystems.com
FOR SALES INQUIRIES CONTACT:
533-1562 | 533-3612 | 533-2989
533-6040 | 534-1529 | 533-4095
534-4526 | 535-0787

STOP ATTENDANCE FRAUD
and save your company money...
MYSOLUTIONS FINGERPRINT TIME RECORDER
Choose the device that suits your needs
(for as low as P7900)
PC-based
Bio-1 Simply Affordable...
USB Port Download
T3 Basic and Economic...
TCP/IP Download
TCP/IP or USB Flash Disk Download
T4 Our Best Seller...
A8 Fully Loaded...
TCP/IP Download with Door Access Control
F4 Total Security...
TCP/IP Download with Door Access Control
F407 Slim and Right...
exclusively distributed by MYSOLUTIONS
trusted by more than 500,000 companies and 65 countries worldwide.
For more inquiries:
367-8188, 365-8488, 365-7313,
364-9355, 367-2844, 364-6571.
www.mysolutions.com.ph

PHOENIX® MATERIAL HANDLING
Racking System • Shelving Systems • Gondolas • Pallets • Carts • Trolleys
Selective Racking System
Multi-level Push Cart
Rack Supported Mezzanine
Mobile Ladder
Wire Mesh Pallet - 3-2005-000481
Super Pallet - 3-2004-000061 & 62
Transport & Glass Pallet A - 3-2004-000058
Cage Pallet B - 3-2004-000033
Flat Deck Pallet A - 3-2004-000068
Drum Pallet - 3-2004-000056
Transport & Glass Pallet B - 3-2004-000428
Wire Collapsible Pallet - 3-2004-000060
Flat Deck Pallet B - 3-2004-000057
Spool Pallet - 3-2004-000055
Container Pallet - 3-2004-000066
Self-racking Pallet - 3-2004-000064
Rackable Pallet - 3-2004-000067
Box Pallet - 3-2004-000065
Cage Pallet A - 3-2004-000426 & 054
Foldable Cart - 3-2004-000430
* BEWARE of imitation, unauthorized manufacturer of patented pallets shall be prosecuted
H-STAR ENTERPRISES INC.
Tel. # : 672-2870 to 77 • Fax # : 672-2890 to 91 • E-mail : phoenix@hstar-ph.com • www.hstar-ph.com

MYOB
NEW VERSION: MULTI-WAREHOUSE INVENTORY SYSTEM
Accounting
• Advanced stock control
• Print cheques and vouchers
• Prepare VAT returns quickly and easily
• 1 user license
Cash P 27,000
Regular P 28,400
Premier
• Make or receive payments in different currencies with ease!
• Easy invoice creation, combining time and inventory details
• Multi-warehousing Control
• 1 user license
Cash P 47,000
Regular P 49,400
Retail Manager (POS)
• An advanced Point of Sale and retail business management solution for your retail establishment
Cash P 49,000
Regular P 51,500
Package Price
Package Includes: Retail Manager, PC, Pole Display, Cash Drawer, Barcode Scanner, & Thermal Receipt Printer
Cash P 92,599
Regular P 97,300
*Plus get a FREE! AVG Anti-Virus (1 user license) upon purchase of any MYOB Accounting software or Retail Manager.
Major Credit Cards Accepted!
AVG Anti-Virus
Complete protection against virus attack
• Maximum antivirus protection for 1 user
• Files and emails protection
• Automatically download updates
• Scan every file opened/executed/saved
1 User License of AVG Anti-Virus
MUSTARD Seed SYSTEMS CORPORATION www.mseedsystems.com
FOR SALES & INQUIRIES CONTACT:
533-1562 | 533-3612
534-1529 | 533-4095
533-6040 | 533-2989

THE NEW CHRYSLER 300C 3.5
CHRYSLER
LOOKS MORE INTIMIDATING...
THE ONLY THING NOT INTIMIDATING IS THE PRICE!

For as low as Php 78,000* downpayment only OR as low as Php 24,254 monthly**
Robust 250 Hp for the 3.5-liter > 5-Speed AutoStick® > HID headlamps > Boston Acoustics® Audio System with Sub-Woofer and 6 CD Changer with MP3 Compatibility > Power Sunroof > Premium Leather Trim Seats Multi-function Steering Wheel > Vehicle Information Center > 18" aluminum wheels > ESP with Brake Assist ParkSense® Assist System > Sentry Key® antitheft engine immobiliser > Tire Pressure Monitoring > Supplemental Side Air-Bags
Experience the complete line of the Chrysler 300C sedan including the 2.7-liter, 5.7-liter HEMI and 6.1-liter SRT8 only at your authorized Chrysler dealer. WWW.CHRYSLER.COM.PH
* Applicable to Chrysler 300C 3.5-liter
** Applicable only to Chrysler 300C 3.5-liter with 50% downpayment, 5 years to pay
Other special financing packages available
Available through AIG Philam Savings Bank, BPI Family Savings Bank and Sterling Bank of Asia from June 14 to July 31, 2007 only.
3 YEAR WARRANTY
PER DTI-NCR PERMIT # 2267 SERIES OF 2007
CATS
CHRYSLER MAKATI 2287 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City, Metro Manila TEL: (632) 815 2222 / MOBILE: (0917) 800 2862
CHRYSLER GREENHILLS 1008 EDSA Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila TEL: (632) 723 5808 / MOBILE: (0917) 800 2794
EMAIL: chryslergroup@cats.com.ph

Is trouble brewing?

MR. BEARBULL

Ron Nathan

MY WIFE GAVE ME A CD "INTO THE Blue," starring Jessica Alba and another beautiful blonde girl, both in teeny-weeny bikinis throughout the film. Before she let me watch it, she called my cardiologist, who performed an ECG and checked that I had taken my blood pressure medicine and my pulmonologist to check that I did not have an asthma attack and to bring a nebulizer. Also my nephrologist to check my kidneys and bring a dialysis machine. Just in case all these precautions failed, she engaged the services of a priest. I know she cares for me because she checked that my life insurance policy was paid up. The film was so boring we switched it off and played poker and the priest won. He was the only one to keep a straight faith.

Because small priced stocks have been rising steadily in recent weeks, more and more speculators have been buying and selling the same day. This is known as flipping but it is very bad for your cholesterol. So the FDA (Funny Drug Administration) has come out with a new drug—Flipitor. Here are some other recently approved drugs:

- Damnitol—take 2 and the rest of the world can go to hell.
- St. Mom's Wort—treats mom's depression by rendering preschoolers unconscious for up to 6 hours.
- Peptobimbo—liquid silicone for single women. Two full cups swallowed before an evening out increases breast size, decreases intelligence and improves flirting.
- Dumberol—When taken with Peptobimbo, dangerously lowers IQ causing enjoyment in listening to government debates.
- Antiboyotics—administrated to teenage girls, it is effective in improving grades, freeing up phone lines and reducing money spent on make up.
- Menicillin—Potent antibiotic for older women. Encourages advances but only when they are in cash.
- Buyagra—increases the speed and duration of a spending spree.
- Jackasspirin—relieves headache caused by a man who cannot remember your birthday, anniversary or telephone number.
- Nosexitol—I take it 3 times a day.

* * *

Wall Street was again rising to new highs after the Labor Department reported that in June, 130,000 new jobs were created, in line with expectations. The unemployment rate remained unchanged at 4.5 percent which is low historically. In May, the number of new jobs created was revised upwards from 159,000 to 190,000. Average hourly earnings increased by 3.9 percent from a year ago, higher than Bernanke would like, so the yields on treasury bonds rose by 17 basis points.

The economy is clearly picking up and GDP should increase from 0.7 percent in the first quarter to about 2.5 percent in the second quarter. Inflation remains a threat so the FED is likely to remain on hold for some time. Consumer confidence is expected to rise from 85.3 to 86. Bernanke will be speaking about inflation on July 10. Manufacturing and services grew at the fastest pace in 14 months exceeding economists' forecasts. Oil climbed above $72 a barrel due to problems in Nigeria and repairs in the North Sea.

Blackstone Group bid $20 billion for the Hilton Hotels Corp. but it was not clear whether this included Paris Hilton.

Inflation in Zimbabwe is believed to have increased from 4,500 percent in May to 10,000 percent in June but the government has lost the records. It is expected to reach 1.5 million percent by yearend, according to one minister. The central bank just keeps recalling notes and adds an extra naught every Monday. The stock market rose 15,000 percent in June handsomely beating inflation. If you like risk, this is the place to invest.

The Phisix has been moving erratically and foreign buying has slowed significantly. There are a large number of IPOs in the pipeline, some of which are shown below:

Phoenix Petroleum- July
Aboitiz Power- July
Cebu Pacific Airways- July
PNB - July
Vista Land- 3rd quarter
RFM Corp.- 3rd quarter
GMA 7 - 3rd quarter
San Miguel Beer - 2nd half
Rockwell Land - 2nd half

Companies being sold by the government:

EDC - July
SMC - 2nd half
MERALCO - 2nd half

The total amount of the above is P3.9 billion. All IPOs issued since 2006 have established a premium owing to the Phisix making new highs. The most outstanding IPO was Citisec Online, which was issued at P1.36 and had risen 11 times to P15. Follow-on offers have also gone to a premium.

The Sandiganbayan is due to rule on Erap's charges of plunder shortly. Whichever way it goes, there will be trouble. If he is found guilty of this serious charge and sentenced to prison, there will be repercussions from his many followers. If he is found not guilty, there will be an outcry from his detractors. Some sort of settlement looks possible if GMA really wants peace. Political infighting would destabilize the stock market and might discourage foreign fund from investing.

Another problem is fiscal slippage as Finance Secretary Teves said that revenue might be P53 billion below target. Buñag has been replaced by Hefti and she has promised a hefty increase in the second half. She has promised to tighten up on tax collection and close tax loopholes. The government will be selling its stakes in SMC, MER, PNB and possibly 20 percent of EDC this month. Teves remains confident that the target of a P63-billion deficit for 2007 will be achieved but bonds have been falling and the yields on the Treasury auction were higher across the board. The government is due to repay P22.2 billion of maturing bonds and to issue another tranche to replace it. I feel that the market will be quieter in the weeks ahead.

Please continue to send Spam to my old address. *nathan.ronald@gmail.com*

CMDC reiterates call to lift tax on stock transactions

RP rate higher than HK, Thailand and Singapore

By Michelle V. Remo

THE CAPITAL MARKET DEVELOPment Council has again called on the government to lift the documentary stamp tax on stock market transactions, including initial public offerings.

The group said in a study that the DST on stock transactions in the Philippines, equivalent to P1 for every P200 worth of shares traded, is higher than in Hong Kong, Thailand and Singapore, thus dampening interest in stock offerings.

"Initial public offerings should be encouraged since greater public stock interest in a corporation means greater scrutiny of corporate affairs resulting in greater corporate responsibility," said the CMDC in a study written by Felipe Medalla.

CMDC advocates for the promotion of the domestic capital market, which covers banks, insurance firms, pre-need companies and the equities market.

Medalla, former director general of the National Economic and Development Authority, said in the study that lifting the DST on stock transactions should be done by amending the National Internal Revenue Code (NIRC).

He said amending the law, rather than merely issuing an administrative order, would ensure that the lifting of the documentary stamp tax on the sale or exchange of stocks listed on the stock exchange will be permanent.

The CMDC is expected to push for the lifting of the tax on stock market transactions in the 14th Congress, which will open on July 23.

The Department of Finance (DOF) earlier said it was open to the proposals of the CMDC to reform taxation of the country's capital market, but said it preferred to discuss any proposed lifting of taxes after the government wipes out its budget deficit.

This year, the government plans to limit the deficit to only P63 billion. Next year, the government aims for a balanced budget.

Besides removing the tax on stock transactions, the CMDC is also pushing for other taxation reforms, including the imposition of a uniform final withholding tax rate of 10 percent on all interest income.

Currently, long-term bank deposits are exempted from final tax on interest income, but investments in other financial instruments are imposed a 20-percent tax.

The CMDC said a uniform rate would level the playing field and would encourage people to invest in other financial instruments other than bank deposits.

Pacific Online launches new 'scratch games'

LOTTERY EQUIPMENT PROVIDER PACIFIC Online Systems Corp. (Pacific Online) yesterday launched its instant ticket lottery games after forming a partnership with Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office, Internet café operator "Netopia" and games distributor "AB Gaming."

Pacific Online president Willy Ocier said in a briefing that the state-led PCSO was expected to generate about P200 million within six months from the two scratch games launched yesterday—Money Bags and Triple Cash.

The government-regulated instant ticket lottery is played by removing a coating from a ticket to determine whether it contains the winning numbers. The ticket costs P20, while the pot is more than P100 million for the rollout of 10 million tickets from July to December this year.

In an earlier disclosure to the stock exchange, Pacific Online said it had been appointed by PCSO as the master distributor of a scratch card game project.

Pacific Online and Scientific Games Inc. teamed up to assist PCSO in launching the scratch card games "Triple Cash" and "Money Bags."

Elizabeth Sanchez-Lacson

CURRENCIES

July 9, 2007 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.733730	1.000000	46.1670
Japan	Yen	0.005948	0.008106	0.3742
United Kingdom	Pound	1.476044	2.011700	92.8742
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.093851	0.127910	5.9052
Switzerland	Franc	0.602454	0.821085	37.9070
Canada	Dollar	0.699390	0.953198	44.0063
Singapore	Dollar	0.482463	0.657549	30.3571
Australia	Dollar	0.628785	0.856971	39.5638
Bahrain	Dinar*	1.946438	2.652801	122.4719
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.195650	0.266652	12.3105
Brunei	Dollar	0.480882	0.655394	30.2576
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000081	0.000111	0.0051
Thailand	Baht	0.023517	0.032051	1.4797
UAE	Dirham	0.199779	0.272279	12.5703
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.362900	62.9210
Korea	Won	0.000798	0.001088	0.0502
China	Yuan**	0.096531	0.131562	6.0738
Argentina	Peso	0.236230	0.321958	14.8638
Brazil	Real	0.385767	0.525762	24.2729
Denmark	Kroner	0.134444	0.183234	8.4594
India	Rupee	0.018247	0.024869	1.1481
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.212891	0.290149	13.3953
Mexico	New Peso	0.068150	0.092881	4.2880
New Zealand	Dollar	0.574798	0.783392	36.1669
Norway	Kroner	0.126344	0.172194	7.9497
Pakistan	Rupee	0.012154	0.016565	0.7648
South Africa	Rand	0.105146	0.143303	6.6159
Sweden	Kroner	0.109169	0.148787	6.8690
Syria	Pound	0.014135	0.019264	0.8894
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.022365	0.030481	1.4072
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000342	0.000466	0.0215

Source: Reuters' forex closing prices as of NY time—July 6, 2007
* Various banks in Bahrain as quoted in Reuters' Screen. ** Asian time closing rate as of July 6, 2007

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of July 9, 2007)

52-WKS HIGH	52-WKS LOW	STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
		BANKS					
17.5	5.2	Asiatrust Development Bank Inc.	12	12	11.75	11.75	5,400
73	30.5	Banco de Oro-EPCI Inc.	72.5	72.5	71	71.5	515,700
73.5	47.5	Bank of the Philippine Islands	72	72.5	71.5	72	2,338,100
935	630	China Banking Corp.	910	915	910	910	9,790
20.25	18.18	Citystate Savings Bank	20.25	20.25	20.25	20.25	300
0.63	0.36	Export and Industry Bank Inc.	0.56	0.56	0.56	0.56	3,370,000
75.5	34	Metropolitan Bank & Trust Company	71	71.5	71	71	2,276,100
65	32.5	Philippine National Bank	63.5	64	63.5	63.5	85,400
68	38.5	Philippine Savings Bank	65	65	65	65	1,700
39.57	14.13	Rizal Commercial Banking Corp.	35.5	35.5	34	34.5	919,400
90	44	Security Bank Corp.	88	88.5	88	88	163,000
66	41.54	Union Bank of the Philippines	62	62.5	62	62.5	186,200
		OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS					
5.6	1.72	ATR KimEng Financial Corp.	5.1	5.3	5	5.2	1,278,000
1.5	0.6	Bankard Inc.	1.24	1.26	1.24	1.24	322,000
15	1.5	CitisecOnline.com Inc.	13.5	15	13.5	15	3,863,500
8.8	3.5	Filipino Fund Inc.	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9	8,000
1.6	0.4	First Abacus Financial Holdings Corp.	1.26	1.28	1.22	1.22	4,459,000
42	28	First Metro Investment Corp.	42	42	42	42	2,000
1,710.00	1,500.00	Manulife Financial Corp.	1,695.00	1,695.00	1,695.00	1,695.00	310
5	4.05	Nat'l Reinsurance Corp. of the Phils.	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.35	6,577,000
3.1	0.99	PCI Leasing and Finance Inc.	2.9	2.95	2.8	2.8	332,000
1,005.00	211	The Philippine Stock Exchange Inc.	820	820	815	815	1,420
2,250.00	1,895.00	Sun Life Financial Inc.	2,180.00	2,180.00	2,180.00	2,180.00	350
1.94	1.2	iVantage Corp	1.82	1.82	1.82	1.82	545,000
		ELECTRICITY, ENERGY, POWER & WATER					
68	41.5	First Gen Corp.	67	67	66.5	67	465,900
92	41	First Phil. Holdings Corp.	90	90	89.5	89.5	211,400
13.25	7.5	Manila Water Company Inc.	12.5	13	12.5	13	5,732,400
116	14.5	Manila Electric Company A	111	111	107	108	276,630
118	23.25	Manila Electric Company B	111	112	106	109	1,819,310
6	3.7	Petron Corp.	6	6	5.8	5.9	5,940,000
1.9	0.91	Trans-Asia Oil & Energy Dev't Corp.	1.56	1.62	1.54	1.6	3,773,000
		FOOD, BEVERAGE & TOBACCO					
6.3	2.85	Alaska Milk Corp.	5.9	6	5.9	5.9	50,000
2.95	1.88	Alliance Tuna International Inc.	2.32	2.32	2.24	2.24	62,000
2.75	1.24	CADP Group Corp.	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	3,000
28.5	19.5	Ginebra San Miguel Inc.	26	26	26	26	9,000
61	30.5	Jollibee Foods Corp.	55	57	55	57	845,700
1.9	0.77	RFM Corp.	1.7	1.72	1.64	1.68	426,000
4.05	2.2	Roxas Holdings	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.7	1,172,000
80	61	San Miguel Corp. A	75.5	76	75	75.5	203,900
88	69.5	San Miguel Corp. B	84	84	82.5	83	275,000
4.3	2	Tanduay Holdings Inc.	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	20,000
22	15.25	Universal Robina Corp.	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.5	490,300
0.55	0.19	Vitarich Corp	0.48	0.48	0.4	0.44	820,000
		CONSTRUCTION, INFRASTRUCTURE & ALLIED SERVICES					
6.1	1.43	EEI Corp.	5.7	5.8	5.6	5.8	502,000
4.6	1.06	Fortune Cement Corp.	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	100,000
9.2	4.3	Holcim Philippines Inc.	7.9	8	7.9	8	235,000
7	1.2	Republic Cement Corp.	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	3,000
2	0.245	Southeast Asia Cement Holdings Inc	1.68	1.72	1.68	1.7	947,000
		CHEMICALS					
6.3	1.42	Chemrez Technologies Inc.	5.7	5.7	5.4	5.5	990,000
1.34	0.8	Interphil Laboratories Inc. A	1.1	1.14	1.1	1.1	114,000
1.4	0.61	Interphil Laboratories Inc. B	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	5,000
1.46	0.51	Mabuhay Vinyl Corp	1.16	1.18	1.16	1.18	141,000
		DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS					
0.44	0.0625	Picop Resources Inc.	0.37	0.37	0.35	0.35	2,380,000
		HOLDING FIRMS					
3.9	1.74	A. Soriano Corp.	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.65	253,000
0.17	0.023	AJO.net Holdings Inc.	0.135	0.135	0.125	0.125	14,660,000
1.28	0.18	APC Group Inc.	1.14	1.18	1.12	1.16	13,763,000
3.6	1.4	ATN Holdings Inc. A	2.55	2.9	2.55	2.75	6,478,000
3.3	1.48	ATN Holdings Inc. B	2.8	3.1	2.7	2.7	10,970,000
0.018	0.0065	Abacus Cons. Res. & Hold'gs Inc. A	0.012	0.012	0.012	0.012	71,000,000
9.7	4.85	Aboitiz Equity Ventures Inc.	8.9	8.9	8.8	8.9	3,050,000
0.021	0.007	Alcorn Gold Resources Corp.	0.018	0.019	0.018	0.018	842,500,000
7.3	3.5	Alliance Global Group Inc.	6	6.1	6	6	11,799,000
2.9	0.89	Anglo-Philippine Holdings Corp.	2.55	2.55	2.46	2.46	1,618,000
8	0.8	Aries Prime Resources Inc.	6.5	6.5	6	6	45,000
590	306.33	Ayala Corp.	575	575	570	570	226,580
14	6.96	Bacnotan Cons Industries Inc.	13.25	13.75	13.25	13.5	17,400
6.9	0.7	Balabac Res and Holdings Co. Inc.	5.1	5.2	4.9	4.9	1,161,000
5.6	1.04	Benpres Holdings Corp.	5.3	5.4	5.2	5.3	13,452,000
10	3.25	DMCI Holdings Inc.	9.1	10	9.1	9.7	7,993,000
2.02	0.7	F and J Princ.e Holdings Corp. A	1.76	1.76	1.76	1.76	30,000
8	2.55	Filinvest Development Corp.	7.6	7.6	7.4	7.5	938,000
3.55	1.16	House of Investments Inc.	2.85	2.85	2.85	2.85	8,000
14.5	5.6	JG Summit Holdings Inc.	12.5	12.5	12	12	8,300
0.8	0.185	MEDCO Holdings Inc.	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	100,000
0.95	0.13	Mabuhay Holdings Corp.	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	40,000
30	0.88	Magnum Holdings Inc.	24	24.25	22.75	22.75	752,300
11.5	0.26	Multitech Investments Corp.	9.1	9.4	8.8	8.9	2,866,000
5.4	1.2	PAL Holdings Inc.	4.8	4.9	4.8	4.9	675,000
0.0575	0.009	Pacifica Inc. A	0.055	0.0575	0.05	0.0525	350,200,000
1.54	0.8	Prime Media Holdings Inc.	0.97	0.97	0.97	0.97	100,000
0.75	0.16	Prime Orion Philippines Inc.	0.58	0.58	0.55	0.55	5,550,000
2.02	1.2	Republic Glass Holdings Corp.	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.02	20,000
452.5	200.44	SM Investments Corp.	450	450	445	450	97,640
2.2	0.71	Seafront Resources Corp.	1.58	1.58	1.58	1.58	55,000
0.73	0.115	Sinophil Corp.	0.56	0.58	0.54	0.55	32,790,000
1.06	0.51	Solid Group Inc.	0.88	0.88	0.87	0.87	700,000
1.6	0.78	South China Resources Inc.	1.4	1.46	1.4	1.46	151,000
0.75	0.085	Wellex Industries Inc.	0.49	0.5	0.43	0.44	6,900,000
1.1	0.155	Zeus Holdings Inc	0.84	0.84	0.77	0.77	480,000
		PROPERTY					
2.16	0.78	A Brown Company Inc	1.66	1.66	1.66	1.66	11,000
1.06	0.3	Araneta Properties Inc.	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	100,000
19.25	9.58	Ayala Land Inc.	18	18	17.5	17.5	13,513,400
1.88	0.99	Belle Corp.	1.7	1.72	1.68	1.68	3,074,000
4.7	2.06	Cebu Holdings Inc.	4.45	4.45	4.4	4.45	90,000
2	1.2	Cebu Property Venture & Dev't Corp.A	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	30,000
0.86	0.26	Crown Equities Inc.	0.84	0.84	0.82	0.82	6,300,000
0.83	0.18	Cyber Bay Corp.	0.57	0.57	0.56	0.56	8,960,000
3.25	0.75	Edsa Properties Holdings Inc.	3.1	3.1	3.05	3.05	30,000
0.99	0.44	Empire East Land Holdings Inc.	0.86	0.86	0.85	0.85	12,460,000
0.32	0.033	Ever Gotesco Res and Hold'gs Inc.	0.27	0.27	0.25	0.25	8,510,000
1.38	0.38	Fil-Estate Land Inc.	1.24	1.24	1.18	1.22	12,725,000
2.44	0.99	Filinvest Land Inc.	2.18	2.2	2.14	2.16	40,267,000
0.41	0.07	Gotesco Land Inc. A	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	90,000
2.4	0.74	Keppel Philippines Properties Inc.	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	61,000
0.69	0.2	Kuok Phil. Properties Inc.	0.46	0.46	0.44	0.44	740,000
1.12	0.18	MRC Allied Industries Inc.	0.97	0.97	0.93	0.96	1,590,000
4.4	1.28	Megaworld Corp.	4	4.05	3.95	3.95	47,377,000
6.4	1.5	Metro Pacific Investments Corp.	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3	5,000
0.7	0.1	Phil. Estates Corp.	0.54	0.56	0.5	0.5	3,210,000
0.87	0.25	Philippine Realty and Hldg Corp.	0.64	0.65	0.63	0.63	13,650,000
9.2	1.1	Polar Property Holdings Corp.	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.4	20,000
23	10.5	Robinson Land Corp.	21.25	21.25	20.5	20.75	3,645,200
5.7	1.23	SM Development Corp.	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	396,000
13.25	5.92	SM Prime Holdings Inc.	12.5	13.25	12.5	13	14,605,800
1.34	0.51	Suntrust Home Developers Inc.	0.98	0.98	0.92	0.92	2,250,000
0.36	0.06	Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.28	0.29	0.27	0.27	2,140,000
7.4	3.65	Vista Land and Lifescapes Inc	6.7	6.7	6.3	6.6	3,964,000
		MEDIA					
35	15.75	ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	35	35	33.5	34.5	178,900
1.14	0.98	Manila Bulletin Publishing Corp	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04	39,000
		TELECOMMUNICATIONS					
2.12	1.16	Digital Telecom Phils. Inc.	1.56	1.58	1.56	1.56	381,000
1,445.00	900	Globe Telecom Inc.	1,395.00	1,400.00	1,395.00	1,400.00	17,610
2,820.00	1,790.00	Phil. Long Distance Telephone Co.	2,705.00	2,705.00	2,675.00	2,675.00	62,150
7.9	3.2	Pilipino Telephone Corp.	7.2	7.2	6.9	7.2	10,815,000
		INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY					
0.39	0.17	Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.29	3,010,000
12	2	Diversified Financial Network Inc.	10.5	10.5	10	10.25	31,100
9.4	2	IPVG Corp.	9.2	9.3	9	9.3	3,931,000
0.065	0.0274	ISM Communications Corp.	0.047	0.047	0.046	0.046	16,600,000
25	5.5	Imperial Resources Inc. A	24	24.75	23.25	24	25,000
2.9	1.8	Ionics Inc.	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.12	2,000
0.185	0.04	Island Information & Technology Inc.	0.17	0.17	0.155	0.16	38,850,000
2.08	1.12	Music Semiconductors Corp.	1.76	1.76	1.72	1.72	187,000
0.0725	0.027	PhilWeb.Com Inc.	0.0625	0.0625	0.06	0.06	98,600,000
5.8	1	Transpacific Broadband Grp Int'l. Inc	3.1	3.25	3.05	3.05	5,497,000
		TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
1.92	1.14	Aboitiz Transport System Corp.	1.72	1.72	1.72	1.72	54,000
32	13.75	Int'l Container Terminal Services Inc.	28.5	29	28.5	28.5	980,400
2.14	0.86	Keppel Philippines Marine Inc.	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.02	71,000
2	0.8	Lorenzo Shipping Corp	1.98	2	1.9	2	81,000
		HOTEL & LEISURE					
16.5	3.8	Acesite (Phils.) Hotel Corp.	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	1,000
4.25	1.26	Leisure and Resorts World Corp.	3.7	3.75	3.65	3.7	2,258,000
4.55	2.8	Philippine Racing Club Inc.	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	1,000
0.98	0.18	Premiere Entertainment Prod'n Inc.	0.69	0.69	0.69	0.69	630,000
1.2	0.42	Waterfront Philippines Inc	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	50,000
		EDUCATION					
3.7	2.65	iPeople Inc	3.25	3.3	3.25	3.3	137,000
		DIVERSIFIED SERVICES					
5.9	1.9	Macroasia Corp.	5.3	5.5	5.2	5.3	1,470,000
17.25	13	Pacific Online Systems Corp.	15.5	16	15.25	15.5	64,100
30	9.9	Paxys Inc	23	23.25	23	23.25	132,200
		MINING					
0.018	0.0075	Abra Mining and Industrial Corp.	0.014	0.015	0.014	0.015	113,000,000
7.6	3	Apex Mining Company Inc. A	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.7	299,000
7.7	3	Apex Mining Company Inc. B	5.7	5.8	5.7	5.7	507,000
21.25	7.4	Atlas Cons. Mining and Dev't Corp.	17	17	16.25	16.5	2,697,000
14.25	8.7	Benguet Corp. A	12.5	12.5	12	12	76,000
5	1.7	Dizon Copper Silver Mines Inc.	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	20,000
3.05	0.0713	Geograce Resources Philippines Inc.	2.9	2.95	2.8	2.85	23,274,000
0.35	0.215	Lepanto Consolidated Mining Co. A	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	10,400,000
0.42	0.225	Lepanto Consolidated Mining Co. B	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	6,100,000
0.038	0.017	Manila Mining Corp. A	0.032	0.032	0.032	0.032	95,800,000
0.041	0.019	Manila Mining Corp. B	0.034	0.034	0.033	0.033	117,000,000
0.024	0.008	Omico Corp.	0.018	0.018	0.018	0.018	183,100,000
6.4	3.15	Philex Mining Corp.	5.7	5.8	5.6	5.8	6,476,000
42	14.75	Semirara Mining Corp.	35	42	35	41	1,271,300
1.36	0.35	United Paragon Mining Corp.	0.98	0.99	0.98	0.99	2,590,000
1.8	0.52	Vulcan Industrial and Mining Corp	1.36	1.36	1.34	1.34	2,348,000
		OIL					
0.58	0.25	Basic Petroleum Corp.	0.45	0.48	0.45	0.48	19,160,000
0.025	0.0095	Oriental Pet. and Minerals Corp. A	0.023	0.023	0.023	0.023	127,100,000
0.027	0.01	Oriental Pet. and Minerals Corp. B	0.023	0.023	0.023	0.023	72,000,000
14.25	9	Petroenergy Resources Corp.	10.5	11.75	10.5	11.25	1,256,300
0.028	0.0089	The Philodrill Corp.	0.024	0.024	0.023	0.024	170,300,000

BY INQUIRER RESEARCH

SOURCE: TECHNISTOCK

Oil prices fall in Asian trade

SINGAPORE—OIL PRICES DROPPED YESterday as traders in Asia took profits after crude futures rose by $1 a barrel on Friday.

The release of a British child by her captors in Nigeria's restive south Sunday also eased concerns.

Light, sweet crude for August delivery lost 23 cents to $72.58 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange midmorning in Singapore.

The contract Friday gained $1 to settle at $72.81 a barrel—the front-month contract's highest settlement since Aug. 15.

August Brent crude declined 3 cents to $75.59 a barrel on the ICE Futures exchange in London.

In southern Nigeria, gunmen on Sunday released a kidnapped British toddler whose father works in the energy industry.

Margaret Hill, 3, was reunited with her parents, who said she was fine but hungry and covered in mosquito bites.

The kidnapping on Thursday added to worries about escalating violence in Nigeria because it came on the heels of an attack on a Royal Dutch Shell PLC oil rig by gunmen on Wednesday in which five foreign workers were seized.

Traders had hoped the situation in Africa's largest oil-producing nation would stabilize following the May election of President Umaru Yar'Adua.

Market participants have also focused on a surprisingly small increase in refinery utilization in Thursday's inventory report from the US Energy Department's Energy Information Administration.

While utilization rose to 90 percent, it's below the 94 percent to 95 percent most think is necessary to meet peak summer driving demand.

Analysts have worried for months that the refining industry isn't producing enough gas to meet demand.

Those concerns have been exacerbated by an unusually high number of refinery outages this year.

The flooding and closure of a refinery in Coffeyville, Kansas, that can produce 2.1 million gallons of gasoline per day has cut supplies in the Plains and some Rockies states and pushed up US retail gasoline prices.

Oil prices reached nearly one-year highs last week, rising 3 percent from June 29's settlement price of $70.68. That was the front-month contract's first close above $70 since August.

Nymex heating oil futures fell 0.47 cent to $2.0904 a gallon (3.8 liters) while natural gas prices inched down 0.7 cent to $6.437 per 1,000 cubic feet. *AP*

Asian stocks up; Nikkei hits 7-yr high

JOURNALIST Tom Brokaw (L), Boeing Vice President and General Manager-787 Program Mike Bair (2nd L) and his wife Elaine Bair look over the Boeing 787 Dreamliner during its world premiere outside the 787 assembly plant in Everett, Washington. REUTERS

Boeing unveils 787 Dreamliner

EVERETT, WASHINGTON—BOEING Co. unveiled its lightweight, carbon-composite 787 Dreamliner last Sunday in front of 15,000 cheering employees, customers and suppliers, capping a weekend of hype and a flurry of orders for the new fuel-efficient plane.

The elaborate unveiling ceremony, at the company's Everett, Washington plant, gave the crowds their first full look at the mid-sized, long-range jetliner, which is Boeing's first all-new plane in 12 years and has already attracted more than $100 billion in orders.

The gleaming, freshly painted jet was pulled into the main doors of Boeing's plant to resounding cheers, after an hour-long introduction involving live picture feeds on a massive screen from teams working on parts of the plane from Japan, Italy, South Carolina and elsewhere.

Apart from its swept back, upward tilting wings, the plane did not look radically new on the outside. But beneath the just-dried paint the structure is made up of 50-percent carbon composite materials and another 15 percent titanium, making it much lighter and fuel efficient than existing jetliners of the same size.

After the ceremony, the audience of Boeing employees, aviation industry VIPS and media surged around the plane, with hundreds congregating under the fuselage to reach up and touch the glossy carbon.

The plane is not scheduled to begin flight testing for at least another six weeks, and still needs its internal power and control systems fitted and functioning.

The use of fatigue-resistant and rust-free composite materials means air in the cabin can be more humid, leaving passengers less dried out and jetlagged after a long flight.

The twin-engine plane, which seats nine-abreast in coach, can carry 210 to 330 people in its three models of various sizes. Prices range from $146 million to $200 million.

The lighter weight and newly designed engines made by General Electric Co. and Rolls-Royce Plc mean air carriers will save about 20 percent on fuel costs.

Airlines have jumped at the plane after years of struggling to turn a profit. Boeing is rapidly closing in on 700 orders, and says a customer placing an order now would have to wait until 2015 for delivery.

The plane is trouncing rival Airbus, whose competing A350 XWB (extra wide body) has been bedeviled by design changes. The European plane maker conceded that the day—July 8, 2007 in US date shorthand—belonged to Boeing.

"Even if tomorrow Airbus will get back to the business of competing vigorously, today is Boeing's day—a day to celebrate the 787," Airbus Chief Executive Louis Gallois wrote to Boeing CEO Jim McNerney in a letter made public by Airbus on Sunday. *Reuters*

Japanese yen hits low vs strong euro

SINGAPORE—ASIAN STOCKS FORGED ahead yesterday, with Japan's Nikkei hitting a 7-year closing high on robust machinery data and high crude oil prices boosting energy companies such as Australia's Woodside.

Benchmark indexes in South Korea, Australia and Hong Kong hit record highs, with gains of around one percent, as strong US jobs data on Friday reassured investors that the outlook for the world's largest economy was improving.

The firm tone was set to continue in Europe, where financial bookmakers expect the FTSE 100 Index to open up to 8 points higher, the DAX to open about 13 points higher, and the CAC 40 to open between 3 and 10 points higher.

The euro hit a record high against the yen and hovered just below its strongest level against the dollar as investors flocked to the higher-yielding currency, anticipating a rise in euro zone interest rates.

"Solid US economic data eased worries about a possible global economic slowdown in summer," said Kosuke Hanao, head of foreign exchange sales at HSBC in Tokyo.

"That means selling the dollar and the yen, while buying risky assets," Hanao added.

The Australian dollar hit a 16-year high against the lower-yielding yen while the Thai baht hit a new 10-year high against the dollar.

Japan's Nikkei ended 0.7 percent higher, with industrial robot maker Fanuc Ltd. gaining 1.3 percent on stronger-than-expected May machinery orders data.

The robust figures, which underlined the case for a Bank of Japan interest rate rise in August, weighed on Japanese government bond futures.

But US Treasuries were unmoved in Asia after the US jobs report lent more weight to the view that the Federal Reserve will not cut interest rates this year.

In the commodities market, the weaker dollar and anxiety about industrial action boosted base metals. Shanghai copper and zinc jumped by their 4-percent daily limit.

Spot gold traded at around $655 an ounce, slightly off its New York close on Friday.

Back among stocks, Seoul's benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index (Kospi) rose 1.2 percent to yet another record close—helped by a 5.8-percent gain in Daewoo Shipbuilding and Marine Engineering Co. after it announced new orders.

Hong Kong's benchmark Hang Seng Index rose one percent to its fifth straight new high, led by lenders and property companies.

"The market's crazy," said Castor Pang, strategist at SHKFinancial."

July 30 Hang Seng Index futures contracts are trading at a discount, so there may be some short-term pullback."

MSCI's measure of Asia Pacific stocks excluding Japan rose 1.4 percent.

The euro traded around $1.3615 near a record high of $1.3683 hit in April, and was well supported after the European Central Bank last week underscored market expectations that a rate rise in September is likely.

The yen initially rose after Monday's strong factory data but relinquished gains as investors kept selling the low-yielding yen in favor of higher-yielding currencies such as the euro.

The euro traded at a record high against the yen and by 0623 GMT was at 168.34 yen. *Reuters*

Cost of complying with anti-money laundering laws up

NEW YORK—COMPLYING WITH ANti-money laundering laws has been much more expensive than banks anticipated, and some still are not meeting all requirements, a new survey says.

Banks around the world saw compliance costs jump an average of 58 percent over the past three years—more than in the previous three years, and higher than the 43-percent increase banks predicted in 2004, said a survey commissioned by Swiss cooperative KPMG International.

Among the six regions surveyed, North American banks saw the highest percentage cost increase, with costs rising 71 percent over the last three years. The Middle East and Africa region was close behind with a rise of 70 percent. Banks' compliance costs rose 58 percent in Europe; 37 percent in Asia; 59 percent in Central and South America; and 60 percent in Russia.

Most of the money went toward buying technological systems and hiring experienced personnel to monitor transactions, said the KPMG report, which did not measure the dollar value of the costs.

North America respondents said they predict a cost increase of 28 percent in the next three years. Globally, costs are expected to increase 34 percent in the next three-year period.

Many governments require that banks take steps to prevent money laundering.

Money laundering involves making certain financial transactions to hide the source, nature or destination of illegal funds.

According to KPMG's survey, 93 percent of North American respondents said they had a formal system in place, meaning 7 percent of banks were not in compliance with the Act's testing requirements.

Despite the possible ramifications, just 63 percent of the survey's North American respondents said anti-money laundering issues were a high priority for senior management.

Independent research agency RS Consulting surveyed 224 of the world's 1,000 largest banks, in 55 countries, through telephone interviews over a six-week period.

Ninety-five percent of North American banking executives surveyed said the number of suspicious activity reports had increased, and 63 percent of those same executives said the number had increased "substantially." *AP*

CHINESE shoppers sit under an urgent stock clearance before demolition sign outside a clothes shop in Beijing. Growth in China's roaring economy is expected to continue apace this year, rising 10.9 percent, a government think tank report said. AFP

Offshoring threat to jobs 'exaggerated,' report says

LONDON—WIDESPREAD CLAIMS THAT large numbers of white-collar jobs are being lost through outsourcing to India and other developing countries are overstated and misleading, a report says.

According to research by the Work Foundation, the organization formerly known as the Industrial Society, there is little direct evidence so far of significant job migration.

It says debate on the subject has an unwarranted alarmist tone that is not justified by the data.

Ian Brinkley, the foundation's chief economist, said that although UK companies had been offshoring to India and elsewhere for several years, there was no visible impact on employment levels.

"Concern over offshoring has become a surrogate for wider issues about economic insecurity," he told Reuters.

"There is something about exporting jobs to foreigners that does press all the wrong buttons. Fears have been stoked by claims that the Chinese and Indians are coming to get your lunch, but the reality is that it is not happening."

He highlighted figures from the European Restructuring Monitor, which recorded 420 restructuring cases in Europe. These cases announced 132,762 job losses but 184,511 job gains.

The analysis shows that just 5.5 percent of all jobs lost across Europe were due to offshoring activities in the first quarter of 2007, he said.

In 2005 the figure was 3.4 percent and, meanwhile, jobs in sectors theoretically vulnerable to outsourcing such as call centers have gone up rather than down in the UK, Brinkley added.

"Self-serving claims from consultancies and aggressive PR from outsourcing companies themselves has tended to drown out the careful analysis of data regarding offshoring," he said.

"If all you'd done was read the headlines in 2003, you'd have thought a disaster was unfolding as bank after bank offshored its call centers and other work.

"Quite a few have now brought them back and adverts even stress the fact that they have UK call centers.

He added: "What once looked like an unstoppable tide is now nothing like as bad as people thought. Increasingly companies are starting to realize that the big headline numbers for cost savings can distract people from the issues involved in managing operations thousands of miles away."

The Work Foundation is a not-for-profit organization that brings all sides of working organizations together to find the best ways of improving both economic performance and quality of working life. *Reuters*

Gov't line agencies to raise charges soon

From page B1

collects fees from the issuance of passports; and the National Bureau of Investigation, which collects fees from the issuance of clearances.

A DOF official said the government agencies should automatically increase fees and charges once they find that expenses incurred in the delivery of public service were already exceeding their revenue collection.

The DOF source explained that some agencies have been incurring operational losses because they have been charging the same amount of fees and charges for years.

The DOF has yet to determine which among the line agencies have not updated the charges. It will then direct the concerned units to raise their fees, the finance official said.

The source also said that the problem on lower-than-expected revenue from fees and charges was not solely due to the agencies' failure to implement a hike.

Some government units, the official said, simply failed to remit their collections to the national government on time.

"Some agencies have the habit of remitting revenues only at the end of the year," the DOF official said. "This should not be the case. They (major revenue earners) should remit as often as they collect something, even on a daily basis."

Fees and charges collected by government agencies form part of the nontax revenue of the national government. It influences the government's ability to keep to its budget deficit program.

In the first half, according to preliminary estimates, the government incurred a deficit of P37.7 billion, exceeding the official ceiling of P31.3 billion for the period.

The deficit, which came about despite the lower-than-programmed expenditures, was blamed on poor collection of taxes and other revenues.

The DOF, however, said the national government would keep to its target of limiting the full-year deficit to only P63 billion. Directing line agencies to promptly remit their collection of fees and, for some, to implement a hike in charges, is expected to ease the revenue shortfall in the first half, the source said.

To our Dad, we bid farewell. To our dear Sir, we say goodbye. But each time we close our teary eyes, you're with us once again, just a glimpse, just for a while.

Though we have to move on, your presence we will surely miss. We are overwhelmed with joy, knowing in God's hand you will find true bliss.

Dad, see you soon. Once again we will share the sun and the moon. But that time will be in heaven's dear arms. And once again we will shout "Daddy!" as we run to your waiting arms.

ROLANDO RAMOS DE GUZMAN, SR.

Passed away in the Grace of our Lord on July 08, 2007 at the age of 63.

His wife Fe; children **Dennis** & **Jenny**, **Andrew** & **Krissna**, **Rolando Jr.** & **Karla**, **Anna Lourdes** & **Francis**; together with his brother **Generoso** and his wife **Conching**, request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Loyola Memorial Chapels, Guadalupe, Makati City.

Cremation will be on Thursday, July 12, 2007, after the 10:00 a.m. mass. Burial will be on Friday, July 13, 2007 at the Columbary of the *Monastery of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary* of the Dominican Nuns in Antipolo, Rizal.

IN MEMORY OF THE
8TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE LATE

MARCELO BRIONES FERNAN

25 October 1927 – 11 July 1999

Holy Masses will be offered on Wednesday, July 11, 2007 at the following churches:

CEBU

Cebu Memorial Park	5:30 P.M.
Sacred Heart Church	6:00 A.M.
Cebu Metropolitan Cathedral	6:30 A.M.
Redemptorist Church	7:00 A.M.
Santo Rosario Church	7:00 A.M.
Basilica del Sto. Niño	8:00 A.M.
St. Therese of the Child Jesus	12:15 P.M.
Capitol Parish Church	12:15 P.M.
Mabolo Parish Church	6:00 P.M.

MANILA

Christ the King Church, Green Meadows, Quezon City	7:00 A.M.
Santuario de San Jose	7:15 A.M.
St. John Bosco Parish, Makati	7:30 A.M.
Santuario de San Antonio	12:15 P.M.
Mary the Queen Church	6:00 P.M.
St. Alphonsus Mary de Liguori	6:00 P.M.

BOGO, CEBU

San Vicente Parish Church	5:00 A.M. & 5:00 P.M.

Please join his family and friends in prayer for his eternal happiness.

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I shall live in the house of the Lord forever."
Psalm 23:6

Atty. JOSE L. BICO, SR.

peacefully joined our Lord on July 8, 2007 at the age of 68.

He will be most missed by his beloved wife, **Norma**; children **Jesse** & **Morena**, **James Rey** & **Zaida**, **Judy**, **Jose, Jr.** & **Mylene**, **Jasmin** & **Romel**, **Jehan Marie** & **Hajji**; grandchildren, **Janielle**, **Jairame**, **Jilyane**, **Joseph Raven**, **Jamie Rose**, **Justin Romel** & **Jayzelle Rae**; brother, sisters, other relatives and friends; and by all of us who were given the grace to know and love him.

His body lies in state at 42 Alabastro St., Poblacion 3, Tiaong, Quezon.

Interment will be on July 12, 2007 at the Tiaong Eternal Garden, Tiaong, Quezon.

1ST DEATH ANNIVERSARY

In Loving memory of the late

Col Ricardo G Nolasco Sr PAF (Ret)

who died 12 July 2006

His wife: Josie;
children: Col Rodolfo Nolasco PAF (Ret) and Edna;
Col Ricardo Nolasco Jr PAF (Ret);
Lt Col Roelito Nolasco PAF and Zeny,
Maj Roger Nolasco PAF (+) and Ester, Gina;
grandchildren: Phillip and Rochelle, Noel, Josuah, Hannah, Ryan, Rose Ann, Raymond and Sheryl, Randy;
great-grandchildren: Adam Kalel and Kyle Colin
relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

Holy Masses will be offered on 12 July 2007, Thursday at the following Churches:

Sacred Heart of Jesus, Hillsborough, Alabang, Muntinlupa City	4:00 pm
St Therese of the Child Jesus Shrine, Pasay City	5:30 pm
The Shrine of Our Mother of Perpetual Help, Baclaran	6:45 am
Minor Basilica of the Black Nazarene, Quiapo, Manila	8:00 am
Sto Domingo Church, Quezon City	5:45 am
Don Bosco Parish, Makati City	6:00 pm
St Alphonsus Mary de Liguori Parish, Magallanes Vill, Makati City	7:00 am

CAPT PATRICK PHILLIP "POPIE" P TERUEL

In peace and grace joined our Lord Father on July 08, 2007 at the age of 25.

A beloved and eldest child of **Col Mario P Teruel PAF (Ret)** *and* **Alma P Teruel**. *An endearing brother to* **Paolo** *and* **Aira** *and* **Jamil**. *And to his girlfriend* **Raquel**. *Relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.*

His remains lie in state at the St Peters Memorial Homes, 296 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on July 14, 2007 at Mt Zion Memorial, Taytay, Rizal.

CONSOLACION T. CRUZ

peacefully joined the Lord on July 8, 2007 at the age of 67.

August 31, 1939 – July 8, 2007

His remains lie in state at Sanctuarium, No. 739 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on July 14, 2007, 8:00 a.m. at Ever Memorial Park, Valenzuela City.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:

1. Copy of Death Certificate
2. Any identification document (I.D.)

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT

MESSAGE OF THANKS

DEATH ANNIVERSARY

REQUIEMS

FREE OBIT DESIGN

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS and bank-to-bank payments

More Classified Ads

Henry Butcher	A8
Department of Labor-NCR	A8
Zamboanga City Electric Cooperative	A8
Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas	A8
Batangas Regional Hospital	A9
Peza-Bataan	A14
Transco	A14

CLASSIFIEDS

BOARD OF INVESTMENTS — dti TRADE & INDUSTRY PHILIPPINES

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that POWERCONNEX INC. is applying for registration with the Board of Investments (BOI) as New IT Export Service Firm in the Field of Software Development and Programming on a Non-Pioneer Status with project/plant site located at 1702 The Peak Building, L.P. Leviste Street, Salcedo Village, Makati City.

Any person with valid objection/s on the above-mentioned project may file his/her objection in writing, under oath, with the BOI within three (3) days from the date of this publication.

(Sgd.) RUDY B. CAÑA
Director
Project Evaluation and Registration Department

Industry & Investments Building 385 Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue Makati City, Philippines. Tel.: (632) 897-6682
Fax Nos. (632) 895-3521 (IPG) (632) 895-3981 (IG) (632) 895-3978 (TSG) (632) 890-3051 (AD)
E-mail OSAC@boi.gov.ph
Homepage: http://www.boi.gov.ph
Cable address: INVESTBOARD P.O. Box 1872 Makati

(PDI–July 10, 2007)

NOTICE OF LOSS

DA-RFU III Receipts No. 8960951-896100 and 4901351-4901400 given to Mrs. Margarita Santos by General Services Section were lost. Any transaction covered by those OR# shall not be honored by the company.

DA-RFU III
City of San Fernando, Pampanga

(PDI–July 10, 2007)

BUY • SELL • PAWN
ROLEX
& other SWISS SWATCHES
JEWELRY
DIAMONDS
BEST PRICE
SPOT CASH
834-1572
8316712
MAKATI-ONE MALL-PASAY

WE BUY at HIGH PRICE
ROLEX
HIS & HERS Watch Center
5646593 5897041
0917-8473744
Room 603 Manila Pavilion Hotel and GoldCrest Bldg.
Glorietta-2 Makati

"PROFESSIONAL & CREDIBLE"
PAWN*BUY*SELL
WATCHES
Jewelry & Diamonds
BEST APPRAISAL
Secondo Glorietta 1
Tel# 894-0282
Agencia de Makati
Tel# 889-7956

07 URVAN ESCAPADE
10 HOURS
P1,800
WITH DRIVER
7878776 7964377
09213497170

For your Classified and Obituary Ads please call:
☎ 637-2008

POEA 24-HR HOTLINES 722-1144 • 722-1155

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

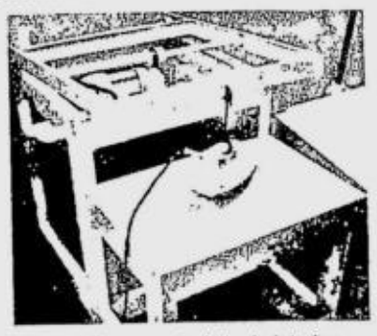
People, Events & Products

ProductFILES

Feast of new flavors at Brothers Burger

FOR THOSE craving a "guilt-free" pleasure, you can now enjoy some lighter fare with the Brothers Lite menu of meals. Less than heavy but still hefty, this line-up is composed of four scrumptious delights: The Brothers Grilled Vegetable Salad - grilled marinated garden vegetable slices on a bed of crisp leafy greens, served with balsamic vinaigrette; Brothers Fresh Fruit Salad - a medley of refreshing seasonal fruits on a bed of leafy greens with tangy citrus cream; Brothers Grilled Vegetable Sandwich - grilled marinated garden vegetables topped with garlic and pesto spread, served in a warm French bread; Brothers Chicken Fajita Sandwich - succulent seasoned chicken strips delicately sautéed with onions and sweet bell peppers, topped with cream cheese and garlic, served in a warm oatmeal bun. New flavors. New urges. New satisfactions. Have a taste of the latest Brothers Feasts! Give in to satisfying temptations or sate your urges without the guilt.

Drop testing at TUV Rheinland Lab



TÜV RHEINLAND PHILIPPINES INC achieves another milestone as the first and only international Conformity Assessment Body to establish an electrical product safety testing laboratory to undertake electrical safety testing according to IEC 60598 (Luminaires), IEC 60335 (Household Appliances) and IEC60950 (IT Equipment) and IEC60065 (Audio-Video products). The Drop Test Apparatus shown in photo is one of the testing equipment at the TÜV Rheinland Philippines Inc - Philippine Laboratory for testing mechanical strength of electric irons. The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) Standards requires electrical products, such as household appliances, to have adequate mechanical strength and be constructed to withstand such rough handling that may be expected in normal use. In the case of electric flat irons, one of the mechanical tests required by the IEC standard is the drop testing in which it is dropped from a height of 40mm onto a rigidly supported steel plate for 1,000 times. TÜV Rheinland Phils Inc has invested on its Philippine laboratory for electrical product safety testing in order to support the local industries access the world market as well as in response to the call of our government regulators for more active participation of the private sector in ensuring consumer protection. The TÜV Rheinland Phils Inc - Philippine Laboratory is located at Unit 8, La Fuerza Plaza I, 2241 Don Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City. Visit www.tuv.com

Hot Loops Donuts now made more affordable

HOT LOOPS DONUTS BRINGS delectable fun to your donut experience as it offers scrumptious fares that are big in size yet easy on the pocket. Donut lovers everywhere can look forward to a delightful snack time with Hot Loops' melt-in-the-mouth donuts, now priced at only P15 and P18. With Hot Loops' big size and affordable price, coupled with mouth-watering flavors and superior quality, there's really more value for money - a great reason to make you come back for more. Hot Loops' extensive selection includes all-time favorite variants such as Choco-Lickety, Bavarian Dream, Peanut Better and other regular items, now at P15. Special Hot Loops offerings include Yummy! Yema Crunch, Midnight Black Forest, Nutty Fruit Cake, and Choco Royale, which are now sold at P18. Freshly made everyday, Hot Loops Donuts is the ideal coffee companion and the best choice for a quick bite anytime of the day. Grab a Hot Loop Donut today in over 100 Ministop Convenience Stores, selected Robinsons Supermarkets and selected Robinsons Malls. Hot Loops Stores are also located in key areas in Metro Manila. Hot Loops Donuts is also available for dealership. For dealership inquiries, please call 672-2349/672-2331, 0922-8195642

†

In loving memory

The Board of Directors, Officers, Stockholders and Employees of the

Rural Bank of Calaca, Inc. (Batangas)

Head Office: Calaca
Branches: San Jose and Nasugbu

Announce the 100th Birthday of its **FOUNDER**

MANUEL PESIGAN CALANOG, SR.

Born: July 11, 1907
Died: August 31, 1973

And request the pious readers and all those whose lives he had touched to offer a prayer for the eternal repose of his soul.

†

In loving memory
100th Birthday

MANUEL PESIGAN CALANOG, SR.

Born: July 11, 1907 Died: August 31, 1973

His loving children and their spouses: **Fe** and **Sofronio A. Ona, Sr.**, **Esperanza** and **Jesus Rodenas**, **Antonio** and **Jesusa de Leon**, **Manuel Jr.** and **Emma Maceda**, **Eduardo** and **Blanca Gaddi**, **Josefina** and **Renato Reyes**, 19 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

Masses will be offered on July 11, 2007 at the following churches:

1. San Jose Parish
   San Jose, Batangas ..... 5:30 am
2. San Roque Church
   Lemery, Batangas ..... 6:00 am
3. San Martin of Tours
   Taal, Batangas ..... 6:00 am
4. Saint Francis Xavier
   Nasugbu, Batangas ..... 6:00 am
5. Christ the King Church
   Greenmeadows, Quezon City ..... 6:00 am
6. Santuario de San Jose
   Greenhills, San Juan ..... 6:15 am
7. Santuario de San Antonio
   Forbes Park, Makati City ..... 7:30 am
8. San Raphael Parish Church
   Calaca, Batangas ..... 7:30 am
9. Valle Verde I Clubhouse
   Valle Verde I, Pasig City ..... 6:00 pm

ANTONIO VICTOR ULGADO y NAÑAGAS

(AVU, Sir Tony, Dr. U, Tatang)

in peace and grace joined our Creator on July 8, 2007 at the age of 83.

Formerly:

Academic Vice-President, Philippine Women's University
Head: Moral, Social, Civic Education Program, Philippine Women's University
Co-Founder: Family Life Center – Asian Social Institute
Chancellor: Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo College, Dasmariñas, Cavite
Director: Values Education Program, Family Life Program Graduate School, Maryknoll/Miriam College

His bereaved wife, **Paulita**;
son and daughter-in-law, **Francis & Zarah**;
daughter, **Marie Celine**;
brother and sister-in-law, **Edmundo** (†) and **Zenaida Daroy** (†);
sister and brother-in-law, **Maria Lourdes** and **Noli Guinigundo**;
mother-in-law, **Victoria Mañago**;
nieces, nephews, relatives and friends, request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

We welcome friends and all those whose lives *Tony* has touched at The Sta. Maria Della Strada Chapel, Katipunan Avenue, Loyola Heights, Quezon City.

Interment to be announced later.

The Ateneo de Manila High School Class of 1956

Greatly regrets to announce the demise of its beloved classmate

Menong L. Enverga

Menong departed this life to join his Creator on July 1, 2007.

He leaves behind his beloved wife, **Vivian**; daughters **Marie Jocelyn** and **Alyssa Anne**; son **Adrian Mark**; son-in-law **William Zmyndak** and daughter-in-law **Darcy Bane**; granddaughter **Alexandra** and grandsons **Ian William** and **Grey McGuire**.

Memorial Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, July 14th at 1 PM, at the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church 2300 Sunridge Heights Parkway, Henderson, Nevada.

Menong used his technical expertise to create an interactive website for us: a permanent legacy that all his classmates now cherish. We now have a repository of class memories including photos, poems, mementos, and directories that he painstakingly put together. We trust that Menong and his new heavenly egroup mates, Tony, Elmer, and Mandy, will continue to monitor our actions and direct our messages through divine Windows.

ANDRES SIÑEL SALAVER

of Ondoy, Ibajay, Aklan and Marikina

peacefully joined his Creator on July 8, 2007 at the age of 81.

His loving wife **ANDIOLINA**, his children **ADRIAN, ANNALIE** and **ANTONNETTE**; children-in-law **LARA ARAC, RENATO CALMA** and **RENE ELCIARIO**; grandchildren **AUDREY, MARION, ADSO, ANDREI, TOMMIE, JELI** and **ARIANE**; great-grandson **JAN ANDRE**, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Sacred Heart Chapel, MBLA court, Malanday, Marikina. Interment will be on July 14, 2007 at the Holy Gardens Memorial Park, Sumulong Highway, Antipolo.

"Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28

Notify family and friends of a loved one who had just passed away.

We accept death notices, announcing details of the person's wake and interment. For a very affordable fee you can reach out to everyone who have been a part of the life of your dearly departed.

For more information, you may contact Inquirer Classifieds at ***(02)897 8425.***

BUSINESS

PSALM off the hook; Napocor probe eyed

Price manipulation issue at electricity spot market

By Abigail L. Ho

THE ENERGY REGULATORY COMmission has cleared Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp. of charges of price manipulation at the wholesale electricity spot market (WESM).

In a briefing yesterday, ERC chair Rodolfo Albano Jr. said the board's investigating unit found no sufficient evidence to conclude that PSALM's trading teams at the WESM engaged in collusion and anticompetitive behavior.

"There's no prima facie case for the alleged anticompetitive behavior of PSALM. ERC terminated the investigation as there is no further need to continue with it," he said.

While PSALM has gotten off the hook with this decision, National Power Corp. might not be as lucky.

In an order issued June 6, the ERC cited two letters that Napocor president Cyril Del Callar wrote to PSALM, which stated how WESM-related losses incurred by the state firm were a result of PSALM trading teams' strategies at the spot market.

Del Callar recommended in those letters that PSALM adopt certain strategies in submitting their bid offers.

"It is highly inappropriate and irregular for Napocor to write such letters to PSALM. The participants in the market are expected to act judiciously and be circumspect in their dealings with each other to thwart any notion of collusion or any tacit agreement or understanding among them," the order said.

"To the mind of the commission, Napocor's proposal may in fact be taken as an invitation to collaborate so as to vary market results, and it is no secret that the dominant position of PSALM can enable it to capitalize on such to easily dictate prices in the WESM. The influencing capacity of Napocor over PSALM and the bidding behavior of the trading teams, whether intended or not, cannot be discounted," it added.

Albano said it would look into the possibility of conducting a separate inquiry on Napocor.

For his part, Napocor corporate communications manager Dennis Gana said the state firm would file a motion for reconsideration on portions of the ERC order affecting Napocor.

With the result of the ERC's investigation running counter to the findings of WESM operator Philippine Electricity Market Corp., PEMC president Lasse Holopainen expressed concern over how the decision would affect prices at the bourse.

"From our point of view, we're unclear as to what to do with the prices on the third and fourth months of our operation," he said in a separate briefing. "It's possible that prices could go back to (the high levels prior to our findings."

Fixed rates and guaranteed earnings for your ₱

Deposit Amount	Interest Rates, %	
In Pesos	30 to 360 days	1 Year
100,000 - 499,999	3.25	3.50
500,000 - 999,999	3.50	3.75
1.0MM - 4.99MM	4.00	4.25
5.0MM - 9.99MM	4.25	4.50
10.0MM and up	4.50	4.75

* Rates are on per annum basis and net of documentary stamp taxes.

Open an account now at any PSBank branch!

PSBank Peso TIME DEPOSIT

Text PSBANK PTD <your name> <landline no.> <email address> then send to 391-772 for Smart or 0917-8902327 for Globe and other networks.

Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Maximum deposit insurance for each depositor P250,000

AGRICULTURE Secretary Arthur C. Yap (2nd from right) and international abaca designer Cora Jacob (2nd from left), inspect raw materials and finished products from abaca that are on display at the lobby of the Department of Agriculture office in Diliman, Quezon City. The exhibit marks the month-long celebration of the 26th anniversary of the Fiber Industry Development Authority (Fida). Yap and Jacob were joined by Agriculture Undersecretary Berna Romulo Puyat (left) and Fida Administrator Gloria Cecilia L. Soriano (right).

HP recommends Windows Vista™ Business

AMD 64 Athlon X2

IT SAVES POWER AUTOMATICALLY. AUTOMATICALLY SAVING YOU MONEY.

Meet the PC that's as thrifty as you are – the new HP Compaq dc5750 Business PC. Armed with AMD Athlon™ 64 X2 Dual-core processor 4200+*, the HP dc5750 has been designed to conserve energy whenever possible, by adjusting power levels up for heavy applications, and down for light ones – reducing your operating costs considerably. This smart system even saves you time, thanks to its suite of management tools and integrated console for multi-tasking and simplified manageability. And when it comes to data security, you'll waste no time worrying, with an array of features like RAID 1 and HP ProtectTools. Best of all, it's yours for a very affordable price. So get the new HP dc5750 Business PC, and start maximising your dollar today and every day.

BUSINESS IS PERSONAL.

Enjoy enhanced data and asset security with HP accessories.

Smart card keyboard | Cable lock | USB Biometric Fingerprint Reader

CALL 1-800-1441-6688 or (632) 867-3557
VISIT hp.com/personal
EMAIL ph.contact@hp.com

BUSINESS PARTNERS: Yutiva Corporation - 2414601 to 07 • Microimage - 7524525 • Silicon Forest Phils. - 3715611 to 20 • Zenshin Systems Corporation - 3650536 • Microphase Enterprise Co. - 7500825/8180615 • Advance Solutions, Inc. - 5263935 • Hytech Integrated Products - 7221122 • Microbase, Inc. - 8137603 / 7593712 • Shellsoft Technology Corp. - 7400431 • MG Business Systems, Inc. - 3741977 / 3727926 • People Eserve, Inc. - 8910742 / 89100790 • Columbia Technologies - 5240393 • Advance Microsystems Corp. - 6354181 / 6354189 • Filmlinx, Inc. - 5313816/7472030 • Fastlink - 4139396 • Lamco - 6347999 • MSI Digiland - 4397777 • Ng Khai - (032) 3462926 • First Data Corporation - 8936657 • Nexus Technologies, Inc. - 8671191 / 7596630 • ICS - 7273801 / 7443000 • Phil Data - 8112878 to 89 • Unison - 3745888 to 99 • CTLink - 8939515 • Digital Media Inc. - 4146716 to 19 • Challenge System - 8923779 • Accent Micro Technologies - 6363563 • CIM Technologies - 7522468

©2007 Hewlett-Packard Development Company, L.P. AMD, the AMD Arrow logo, AMD Athlon and combinations thereof, are trademarks of Advanced Micro Devices, Inc. *This model number indicates relative software performance among AMD Athlon™ 64 X2 Dual-core processors. Microsoft and Windows are U.S registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation. Windows Vista is either a registered trademark or trademark of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries. Certain Windows Vista product features require advanced or additional hardware. Windows Vista Upgrade Advisor can help you determine which features of Windows Vista will run on your computer. To download the tool, visit www.windowsvista. com/upgradeadvisor. For Windows Vista system requirements, visit www.windowsvista.com/systemrequirements.

CAB woos S. Korea, HK for RP carriers

By Riza T. Olchondra

THE CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD (CAB) has asked South Korea to act favorably on Asian Spirit's application to fly regularly from Kalibo, Aklan to Incheon, a metropolitan city in the west coast of South Korea.

In another development, the CAB had urged Hong Kong Civil Aviation Authority to reconsider its decision rejecting the application of Cebu Pacific for fielding chartered flights to HK.

While Asian Spirit's application is being processed, South Korea's Ministry of Communication and Transportation wants to temporarily stop Asian Spirit's chartered flights servicing the said route.

"That seems unfair to Asian Spirit," CAB Executive Director Carmelo Arcilla said.

Arcilla said the government's progressive air liberalization policy was "proceeding at a healthy pace" but admitted that there were cases where Philippine carriers' foreign partners got the upper hand during the implementation of air service deals.

"They had been flying chartered flights and we have already signed a new air service agreement increasing seat capacity between the Philippines and Korea from about 14,000 to 19,000, two-way. There should be no need to stop the chartered flights, even temporarily," he said.

Cebu Pacific, in the meantime, was advised by the Hong Kong Civil Aeronautics division that there's not enough space in the bilateral agreement. However, HK Airlines continues to operate from Clark to Hong Kong."This shows how touchy reciprocity is," Arcilla said. "

EO grants exporters travel tax exemption

By Ronnel W. Domingo

TRADE UNDERSECRETARY Thomas G. Aquino yesterday urged exporters to take advantage of the travel tax exemptions provided under Executive Order No. 589 to help them expand their markets overseas.

Signed last December, EO 589 exempts qualified exporters who are taking part in international trade fairs, exhibitions, selling missions and trade negotiations from paying travel taxes.

Aquino, who is also chair of the executive committee of the Export Development Council (EDC), said the EDC pushed for this order in an effort to further encourage entrepreneurs to expand their overseas markets.

The EDC oversees the implementation of the Philippine Export Development Plan, which lays out the strategy of promoting and enhancing the country's export sector.

"The PEDP emphasizes the importance of the private sector's full participation in the expansion of the country's exporting capabilities," Aquino said. "It also identifies the conduct of bilateral, regional and multilateral trade engagements on occasions with private sector participation as means to gain market access."

"In order to implement these strategies, exporters and trade negotiators have to travel abroad, thus exempting them from payment of the travel tax is of national interest," Aquino added.

In particular, exporters are exempted from the payment of tax whenever they travel to take part in offshore business matching and selling missions that the Bureau of External Trade Promotion organized or endorsed; to attend international trade fairs and exhibitions that the Center for Trade Exposition and Missions organized or endorsed; and to take part as official members of the Philippine delegation to trade negotiations and international conferences the the Bureau of International Trade Relations endorsed.

Also, EO 589 exempts from travel taxes agents and office representatives of buyers taking part in promotion and marketing activities of Philippine export products in the international markets; those attending seminars related to technology, productivity and competitiveness enhancement that the DTI endorsed; and those taking part in international conferences relevant to international trade that the DTI endorsed.

Aquino explained that exporters could avail themselves of the travel tax exemption by securing a document called "recommendation for travel tax exemption" from the agencies mentioned or an accredited umbrella organization.

IN THIS ISSUE
Raising funds with the color pink /C3

LIFESTYLE
Website: www.inquirer.net/lifestyle
Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso
sms feedback: inquirer life name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) and 386 (Smart) or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Strategies to help you maintain your weight

By Mitch Felipe
Contributor

YOU MAY HAVE lost 10, 20, 50 pounds, even more, but you're struggling to maintain the reduced weight. Or worse, you may have completely given up on your weight-loss efforts and have started to believe you just can't keep it off.

Many people experience the lose-gain pattern many times. Weight maintenance is more complicated than weight loss. Studies show that more than 90 percent of dieters regain all the weight lost after a year.

It's time to analyze why you can't seem to maintain the right weight for you and focus on strategies that will help you break the cycle.

Problem: The environment was not modified

Perhaps you have tried a low-fat diet while your family eats typical high-calorie foods at mealtime, such as white rice with fried chicken, hotdogs and cakes. Then, after losing 20 pounds and due to constant exposure to high-calorie foods at home, you start to incorporate fried foods into your meals again. After a few weeks or months, you may gradually forget about the low-fat diet that has made you lose 20 pounds. Over time you gain it all back.

Strategy: Assert yourself and ask for low-fat choices.

Talk to your family and friends at the start of any weight-loss attempt. Suggest ways on how they can help you modify the environment by explaining your goals. Also, educate them on the benefits of healthy eating, exercise and weight control.

Ask to have low-fat choices available during meals and keep fatty and high-calorie foods like desserts, out of sight. Say: "Mom, I think it's better if you try to reduce the oil and trim off the skin when you prepare chicken for dinner. This way we can do away with a huge amount of calories."

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

Problem: Rewarding yourself with food

After losing weight and on your way to maintenance, you decide to go to the most popular buffet in town for a treat. Since you miss your old lifestyle, you start to celebrate your success with food together with your friends or family. Before you know it, you've gained 50 percent of the weight that you've lost.

Strategy: Change your old thinking and never associate your successes with food.

Reinforce yourself with non-food rewards like clothes, books, massage or a vacation. Modify statements like "I deserve the best buffet since I worked so hard for it," to "I don't need to reward myself with food because it might trigger an unexpected outcome. This type of behavior should stop now."

Problem: Sticking to unrealistic exercise and diet programs while energy expenditure falls

After a significant amount of weight is lost, the total mass in the body will decrease. Hence, your body requires fewer calories to be able to function or stay alive. Meaning you need to eat less, burn more calories from physical activities, or a combination of both just to maintain your weight. In short, be reasonable with your food intake and exercise relative to your body size.

Strategy: Continue your physical activities and moderate amount of food intake.

To maintain weight it is still essential to continue to do the math in terms of calorie input and output. Avoid sticking to very rigid diet and exercise programs while in the process of losing weight to avoid food deprivation and exercise burnout.

Think: "I am not burning the same amount of calories I used to when I was 50 pounds heavier, so I shouldn't forget to move all the time and eat in moderation to maintain my weight."

Problem: Change of priorities and life events

In the book "Dr. Kushner's Personality Type Diet," the authors, Robert and Nancy Kushner, identified life events that occur during each time span that may relate to weight changes.

These life events may include breaking up with a partner, quitting smoking or drinking, moving to a new location, getting married, starting or retiring from a job, having children; suffering from an illness, having money problems and other traumatic events.

Priorities in life can change unexpectedly and you can fail to focus on your weight maintenance. Maybe stress from work makes you crave for more sweets, or long hours of work decrease your workout regularity.

Strategy: Renew your goals and analyze your new situation.

Identify your present goals after losing weight. If you find it hard to keep your weight off, analyze the relationship of your weight change with new priorities or event highlights in your life.

"It's time to sit down, relax, renew my goals and ask support from others so I can communicate my feelings and thoughts with my new life struggles."

The author is a licensed physical therapist and the head consultant of the lifestyle and weight management program of Fitness First Phils. She is a personal trainer and group instructor certified by the American Council on Exercise

MORGEN Jensen waves the Ecco flag from atop Mount Everest.

Asthma no deterrent to reaching Mount Everest tip

"I'M SO HAPPY. IT'S A FANtastic feeling—without a doubt the greatest experience I've had in my entire life."

These were the words spoken by Mogens Jensen, a very happy, but very tired mountain climber, via satellite phone, after reaching the summit of the world's highest mountain, Mount Everest, on a recent early morning.

"The climb from the last camp was really hard but, luckily, the weather was on our side. It wasn't too cold, although it was cloudless, so when I reached the top, I could see the sunrise. It was incredibly beautiful," said Jensen, who managed to spend half an hour on the summit.

Jensen is asthmatic. It has been a long-standing dream of his to be the first asthmatic —and the first Dane—to summit Mount Everest without the use of supplementary oxygen.

He made his first attempt in 2005, after being the first in the world to have travelled the 11,500 km from his home in Viborg to Everest Base Camp in Tibet, in 100 days—alternating between cycling and running. Unfortunately, frostbite in his toes later forced him to abandon his adventure at an altitude of 8,420 m.

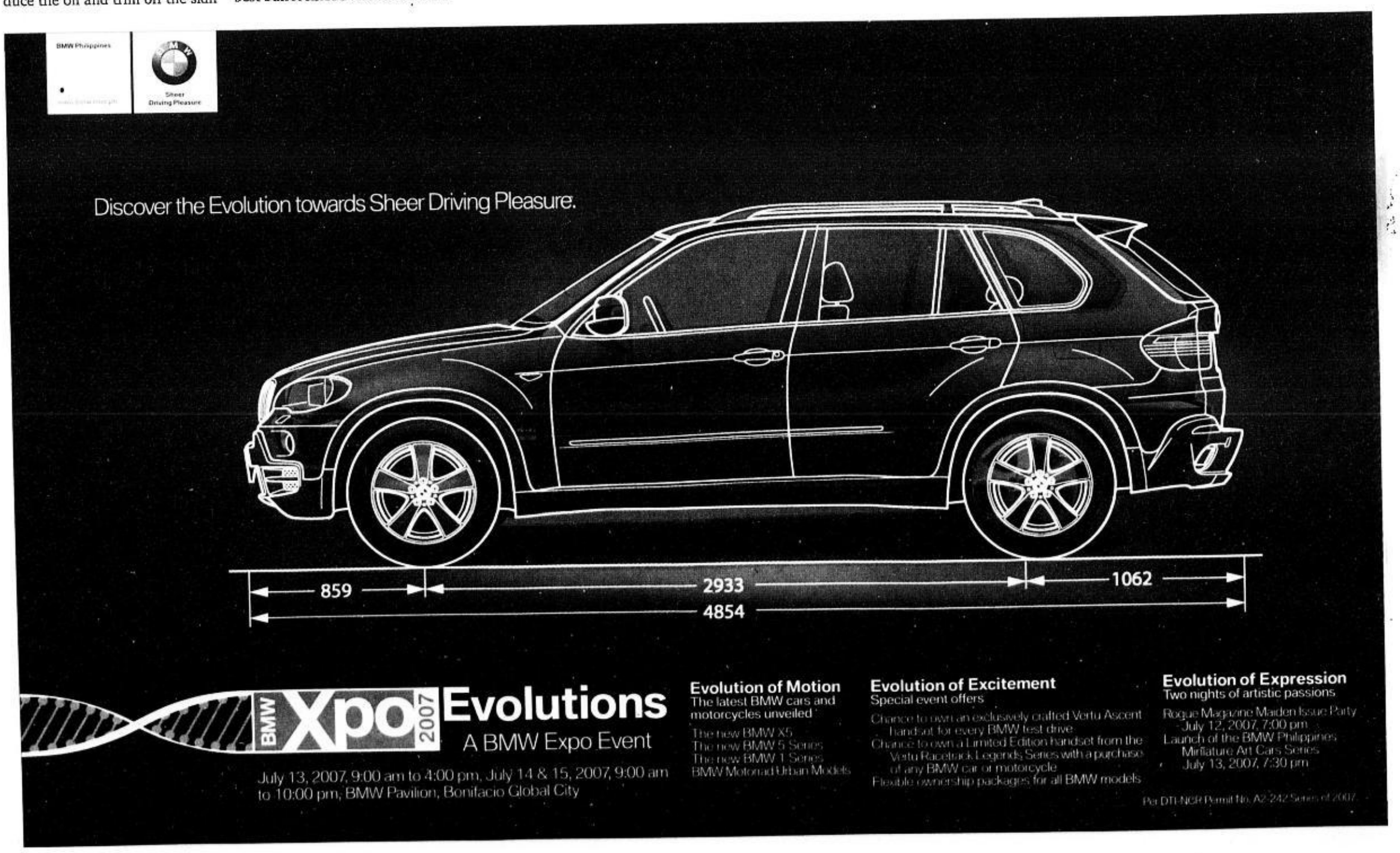
During his recent successful effort, Jensen had to resort to using oxygen botties to reach the summit.

"Shortly before the summit my lungs began to collapse. I had the choice between abandoning the attempt, or reneging on my goal, so I went with the last option," said Jensen.

The Danish mountain climber ended his adventure in dramatic fashion. During the descent from the summit, a fixrope in the rock wall suddenly dislodged itself, leaving Jensen hanging by his security line more than 2,500 m above the ground.

International shoe brand Ecco Sko A/S, which is headquartered in Denmark, has sponsored the Danish climber since 2005. In return Jensen helps the company test its shoes and boots in some of the world's most extreme environments.

In the Philippines, Ecco is exclusively distributed by Stores Specialists, Inc. at Shangri-La Plaza, Glorietta 3, Rustan's Makati, SM Mall of Asia, Alabang Town Center, Bonifacio High Street and soon at TriNoma.



GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS

A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA

BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT

PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR

MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL

LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO

ATOMO AND WEBOY

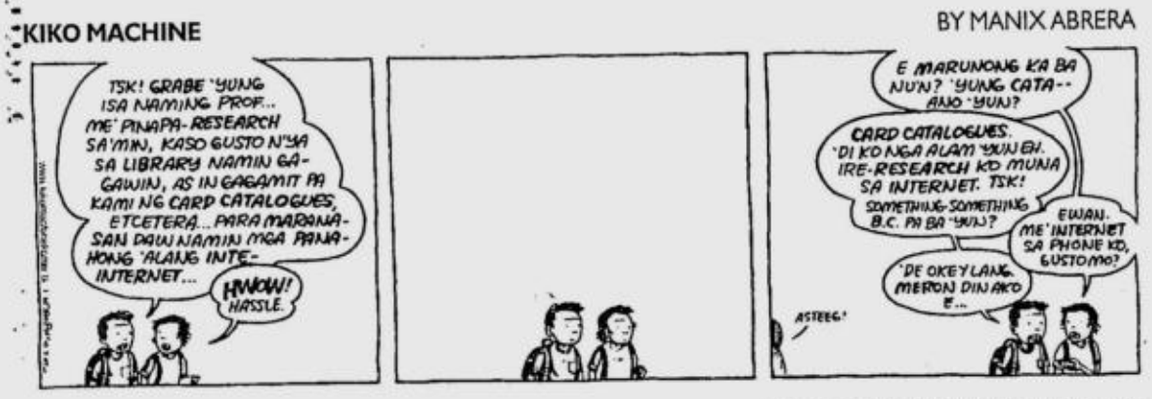
BY LYRA GARCELLANO

DIVINE COMEDY

BY STEVEN PABALINAS

KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA



MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO

TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING

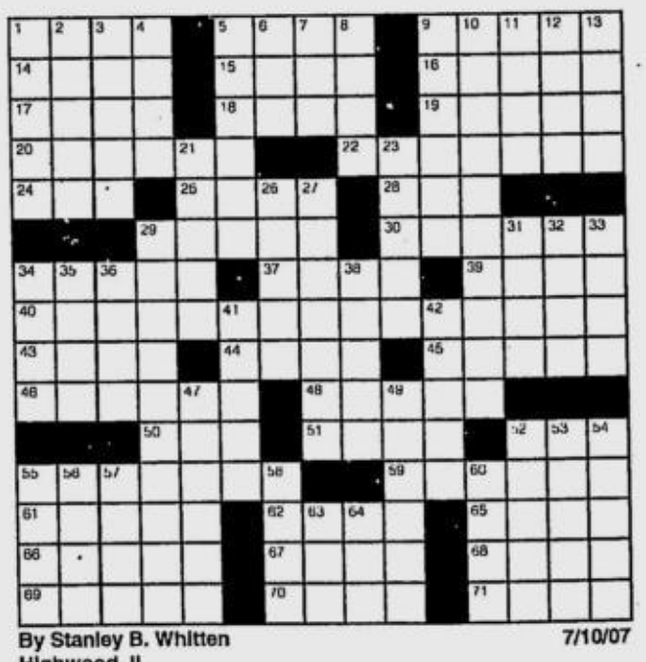
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Pacifying offers
5 Junky jalopy
9 Picture in the mind
14 Katz of "Hocus Pocus"
15 Biographer Ludwig
16 Wanderer
17 Talon
18 Eye-catcher
19 Hang in loose folds
20 Tristan's beloved
22 Infatuated
24 Train unit
25 Writer Bagnold
28 Easter item
29 Spinet
30 Possible to accomplish
34 Chilean mountains
37 Rocket top
39 Church or movie follower
40 Puzzle directive
43 Smith or Jackson
44 Kuwaiti or Saudi
45 Wear away
46 Tics
48 Color changers
50 Can material
51 Bridge achievement
52 Catch some rays
55 Run
59 Dreaded fly
61 Metro terminal?
62 __ vera
65 Sketched
66 Indian tea
67 Entertainer Vikki
68 Young lady
69 Serengeti carnivore
70 Fireplace shelves
71 Simple

DOWN
1 Kind of boom
2 Stomachs of ruminants
3 Preceding in order
4 Part of a window
5 Montana capital
6 Rhea's relative
7 Have a bug
8 Positive factor
9 Deep blue
10 Property pledgers
11 Latin lesson word
12 Stare stupidly
13 Biblical garden
21 Religionist
23 Tragedy by Euripides
26 Spiritual
27 Trinkets
29 Walker
31 U2 singer
32 Direct
33 Perry and Della's creator
34 Places of refuge
35 Kind of tide
36 Info
38 Lady oracle
41 Lacks
42 Cold carriers
47 Noxious swamp gases
49 Diner patrons
52 Parallel bands
53 Addicts
54 Not long ago
55 Moonfish
56 Nosegay
57 Word in an ultimatum
58 For one
60 Rim
63 Thai's neighbor
64 Sphere of power



By Stanley B. Whitten
Highwood, IL
7/10/07

Monday's Puzzle Solved

M	I	L	E		B	A	E	Z		U	P	S	E	T
O	N	Y	X		A	R	L	O		M	A	T	E	O
S	C	R	E	W	B	A	L	L		S	T	A	R	K
S	H	E	R	R	Y		I	A	N		A	P	I	A
			C	A	S	E	S		O	A	K	L	E	Y
I	N	S	I	P	I	D		B	E	L	I	E		
F	O	P	S		T	W	I	R	L	S		D	I	X
F	L	I	E	R		A	R	I		O	P	I	N	E
Y	A	K		C	A	R	V	E	R		R	E	I	N
		E	L	A	N	D		R	I	C	O	T	T	A
A	D	J	U	S	T		F	S	T	O	P			
F	R	O	G		I	S	L		A	B	E	L	E	S
T	E	N	E	T		N	A	I	L	B	R	U	S	H
R	A	Z	R	S		O	M	N	I		T	I	T	O
A	R	E	S	O		B	E	A	N		Y	S	E	R

(C)2007 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All rights reserved. 7/10/07

HOROSCOPE

YOU BORN TODAY: You don't miss much. Often in the background, you observe everything—in large measure because you remain detached. You're careful and tactful because you're very sensitive to everything around you. In the next two years, many of you will change residences or jobs. Fortunately, the year ahead could be one of the best years of your life. Dream big!
Birthdate of: Alice Munro, author; Jessica Simpson, singer; Arlo Guthrie, musician.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): Something pleasantly unexpected might occur at home today. Someone you want to see might drop by. You might also buy something unusual, very modern or high-tech for where you live.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): Today will not go as planned, but the changes will no doubt please you. You're full of inventive ideas! Don't be afraid to go with the flow. Expect to meet someone unusual.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): New moneymaking ideas will either occur to you or fall into your lap today. Some of you will think about self-employment or working independently. You want more financial freedom!

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): This is the perfect day to try new activities or make discoveries about yourself or the world around you. You're interested in many different things, especially those that are ancient or New Age.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): You might have flashes of genius today. Even though you're working behind the scenes or having a relatively quiet day, your mind is full of wonderful ideas!

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): Friends will surprise you today. Or possibly, you'll meet someone who is a real character or is bizarre in some way. Be open to anything.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Bosses, teachers, parents and authority figures are unpredictable today. Someone might do something that makes you feel rebellious. (Think twice before you act.)

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): New ideas and philosophies intrigue you today. Unexpected opportunities to travel or to increase your education in some way might arise.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Be on the lookout for unexpected gifts and goodies from others. You might find something. In some way, you can benefit from the wealth or resources of others.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): Don't take partners or close friends for granted today. Allow a little breathing room in your relationships. People don't want to be stifled today.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): This is a good day to learn about high-tech things or discover new ways of doing your job. Some of you might see how to pursue working independently or working for yourself.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): Love at first sight can occur for some of you. Flirtations are exciting. Playful times with children, sporting events or the arts will delight you today. Explore new ways of having fun!

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

			1					
	5	7	3			2	4	
6		1				7		9
			2		1		8	5
				9				
2	7		5		4			
9		3				8		4
	4	8			6	1	2	
					2			

Difficulty Level ★★ 7/10

©2007 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.
Tips and program at www.sudoku.com

Answer to previous puzzle

7	1	3	9	5	6	2	8	4
4	9	2	8	7	1	6	5	3
6	8	5	3	2	4	9	7	1
1	6	4	5	9	2	8	3	7
8	3	9	1	4	7	5	6	2
5	2	7	6	8	3	4	1	9
2	7	6	4	3	5	1	9	8
3	5	8	2	1	9	7	4	6
9	4	1	7	6	8	3	2	5

Difficulty Level ★ 7/10

PETER Jentes; Diana Jean Lopez; Dacio Castillo, visiting from Geneva; Sigalit Djemal; and Raul Teehankee

ALICE Briones, Nini Licaros, Connie Garcia and Nonie Basilio

WOMEN of substance for a cause. Natasha Davis, Erdene Ou-un Chimeg, Mary Clarks and Susan Kerr

Pink is the color of life and caring

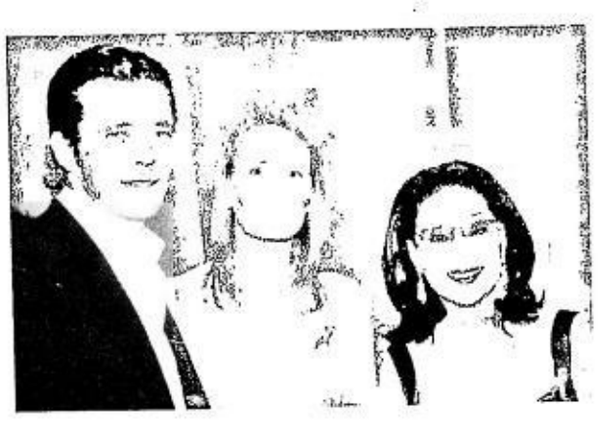
THE YOUNG ones did their share, too. Henny Zobel, Sophie Saguil, Audrey Macormack and Metav Djemal

SAMANTHA Ramsey, Frances Tanchangco, Bambina Jacinto and Isabel Francisco

EMILY Lopez and wife of Italian Ambassador, Madame Cosetta Fedele

THEY both survived the Big C. Minie Jentes and Bettina Lopez Osmeña

NYMPHA Yatco; brilliant renowned cancer doctor, Dr. Diana Cua-Balcells; and Winnie Malabanan



BEAUTIFUL couple Lutz and Ali Kunack, with glam Vicky Zubiri

THE PINK FOR LIFE PROJECT MET with enthusiasm from the time it was conceptualized by managing director and Philippine Tatler's publisher **Irene Martel Francisco**, breast cancer-treatment advocate **Sigalit Djemal** and San Francisco's renowned cancer specialist Dr. **Diana Cua-Balcells**, to the day of the cocktail event at the Makati Shangri-La Ballroom.

The goal was to raise P3 million for breast-cancer treatment, *palanggas*.

Committee members focused on those afflicted with stages 1 and 2 breast cancer. The disease was most treatable at those stages. Bosom Buddies Inc., which was chosen as the coordinating organization that will distribute the medication, was the beneficiary of the event, *palanggas*.

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

Maurice Arcache

Photos by **Alex Van Hagen** using **Kodak** EasyShare system

Friends were asked to join the Pink for Life project. **Mario Katigbak, Mons Romulo-Tantoco, Vicki Belo, Joy Wassmer** and **Anton San Diego** willingly came on board as committee members.

As Dr. Cua-Balcells started looking for the most effective and yet affordable chemotherapy medication available, Bulgari, Makati Shangri-La, Belo Medical Group, Palmers Coco Butter Formula and the International Bazaar Foundation became major partners of Pink for Life.

Through her Fiori di M, **Margarita Fores**, herself a cancer survivor, donated exquisite flower arrangements. Sultry singer **May Bayot** and bossa-nova queen **Sitti**, who both sang beautifully, waived their fees in the name of charity.

The tons of invitees were asked to make a minimum donation of P1,000, which they gladly did.

Auction with a twist

The high point of the fun evening was a brand new and fun twist to auctions. On the block were lifestyle experiences not available in stores, dahlings. Auctioneers were **Johnny Litton** and Mons T., supported by Anton.

Cris Albert, Fila's first lady, won "The Memorable Moments" auction featuring a sunset cruise around Manila Bay on a yacht for 10 people with cocktails and food organized by Bulgari.

Edd Fuentes of the in-demand Fuentes Publicity bagged a weekend of fun at the Mactan Shangri-La, with specially chosen Chi Spa treatments.

Mel Meer of Bergamo Boutique won a case of the bubbly Möet & Chandon Rose Champagne and a gourmet dinner conceptualized by Möet & Chandon's **Olga Azarcon** at Red.

A weekend stay at the honeymoon suite of the Solana resort in Anilao, including an introduction to diving and a resort-style bag from Tint, went to **Jesper Hansen**, who also won a weekend for two in Punta Fuego with luxury transfers in a top-of-the-line sedan from Mercedes-Benz.

Winnie Malabanan won a whole day of pampering with beauty and body treatments from Emphasis Salon, including a stunning outfit from St. John. Gorgeous **Wanda Louwallien** got a weekend of wellness and health for two at the world-renowned Farm of San Benito.

A dinner for two to be prepared at the winner's own home by the new chef of Makati Shangri-La **Alexander Paul**, with wines selected and provided by **Alex Lichaytoo** of Bacchus, went to **George Mora**.

A popular item was a night for two at the presidential suite of the Makati Shangri-La, complete with dinner for eight specially prepared by the hotel's chefs. The vivacious **Cristina Gonzales** won it.

The most memorable moment, however, was, take note, *palanggas*, the auction of a dinner date with the handsome **Piolo Pascual** at fab Italian resto Pepato.

Three *señoras de la alta sociedad*—**Doris Magsaysay Ho, Lilibeth Cu-unjieng Virata** and **Ollie Campos**—pooled their bids to outbid art collector **Patrick Reyno**.

The bidding ended in a tie, with Pepato owner Margarita Fores generously agreeing that the dinner would be for four.

The auction made over P660,000, bringing Pink for Life's collected funds to an awesome grand total of, P4,188,250, higher than the project goal and for which the organizers are endlessly grateful.

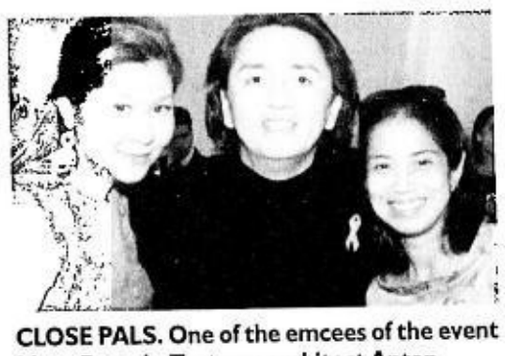
Pink for Life is now partnering with pharmaceutical companies Biomedis and Dabur for the purchase of chemotherapy drugs.

Check this out, *palanggas*, any woman with Stage 1 or Stage 2 breast cancer can tell her doctor she wants to participate in the Pink for Life program and call Bosom Buddies Inc. at 8100330 and look for **Raciel**.

SOCIALITE Sandy Poblador; multifaceted woman of substance Irene Martel Francisco, who was one of the main organizers of this worthy cause event; and Bulgari's Mario Katigbak

THE GORGEOUS *FAMILLE*. Wanda Louwallien and daughters Ana Bitong and Fila's Cris Albert

DOING their share to help fight breast cancer. Sevrine Mialhe, Barbara Aboitiz and Fely Atienza



CLOSE PALS. One of the emcees of the event Mons Romulo-Tantoco; architect Anton Mendoza; and breast-cancer fighter Margarita Fores of the popular Pepato

EXCITED society women bid for the dinner with Piolo Pascual. Ollie Campo, Lilibeth Cu-unjieng Virata and Doris Magsaysay Ho

RICKY See of Regent Food Corp. and Dusit Hotels and Resorts COO Khampi Suwanarat

GRAND-PRIZE winner of a three day-two night stay in Dusit Thani Bangkok Lorna Pabelico with host Regine Tolentino and Ricardo Cepeda

EVELYN Diao and Dusit's marketing communications manager, Lizel Ventosa

DUSIT'S director of sales and marketing Melotte Mondelo and Joaquin Singson

DUSIT'S *tres* popular GM Ikuo Itoi

Grand opening

Who does not want to be fit and healthy these days, *palanggas*? Actually no one, *'di bala*? So it's no wonder that even the seasoned and renowned Dusit Hotel Nikko now has an awesome Fitness center—DFIT.

So, without batting an eyelash *moi* rushed over for the grand opening held at the hotel's newly renovated poolside.

Dusit's *tres* popular general manager **Ikuo Itoi**, together with resident manager **Frank Grassmann**, welcomed the invitees from the corporate jungle, media and members of DFIT Fitness Center, as well as the guest of honor, a member of the hotel's board of directors and COO **Khun Khampi Suwanarat**, no less.

An opening like this just had to have a raffle with tons of prizes, including the grand prizes of a free three-month membership at DFIT and a fab three day-two night stay at Dusit Thani Bangkok, *natch*.

If you are ready to get fit, hip and hop over to the DFIT and feel the difference, *palanggas*.

Women should be in the pink of health

EVERY WOMAN SHOULD HAVE TIME for pampering and relaxation despite a busy schedule. And she should nurture her own well-being and health.

Marionnaud Philippines recently launched Project Pink, a program for breast-cancer patients and survivors. Spearheaded by Toni Abad, marketing manager of Marionnaud Philippines and herself a survivor of breast cancer, the program aims to become a forum for discussion, support and awareness about the disease.

"I was very emotional about this [program]," shares Abad. "It strikes very close to home." Project Pink held a beauty workshop last June 7 for breast-cancer patients and survivors. Abad gave a preview on Lavera, a German skincare brand devoted to organically pure ingredients.

Edna Sheker, who has survived Stage 3 cancer, was invited as guest speaker. Bosom Bodies head Linda Panutat and I Can Serve founder Kara Alikpala provided support to the event, while Maritoni Fernandez attended the beauty workshop with her daughter.

Three raffle prizes were given away while participants went home with a Marionnaud bear with a pink ribbon.

INSIDE OUT
Cory Quirino

Q & A on looking and feeling good

EACH DAY THAT PASSES, THERE IS always some new development in the health, beauty and wellness landscape. The horizon is ever-expanding in ways we cannot imagine.

In reply to some frequently asked questions, here are new and revitalized concepts guaranteed to make you look and feel better.

Can you help me sleep better?

Did you know that sleep deprivation can lead to weight gain? In "The Coconut Diet" book, it was mentioned that recent studies found that troubled or little sleep could lead to the following: weight gain, insulin resistance and sluggish metabolism. It is said that less sleep can make you store, rather than burn, fat.

To sleep better: Add virgin coconut oil or coconut oil to your diet (two tablespoons daily in the morning mixed with your oatmeal, juice, salad or soup will do).

Note: Best taken at daytime, not late at night, for energy. Put two drops of lavender oil on your pillow, drink a cup of chamomile tea 30 minutes before bedtime, take a 10-minute walk after dinner, have a warm bath soak one hour before turning in, take calcium and magnesium supplements to relax tense and aching muscles. Clear your mind.

Sleep right imaging

Imagine you are sitting on a cloud and it carries you to a peaceful, relaxing haven. Feel the softness of the cloud like pillows of calm, cradling your head and embracing your body.

Is there an ideal cleansing detox regimen in the morning?

Make it a habit to drink healthy beverages. Morning is the best time to begin. Take any of these as a morning pick-me-up:

- Carrot-apple juice (peeled two carrots, one apple—freshly-juiced or prepared in a blender). You may keep the fiber or not. That's up to you.
- Cucumber-lettuce-coco juice—Peel a small cucumber, remove seeds, add three leaves of romaine lettuce, half a glass of fresh coconut water with three tablespoons of coconut meat. Mix in a blender.
- One cup of warm water with a squeeze of half a lemon. Take this upon waking up as an alkaline detox drink.
- Two teaspoons of apple cider vinegar (organic), ¼ teaspoon of honey in a cup of warm water.

Could you recommend a natural breast lift program?

Believe it or not, there are natural ways to lift sagging breasts.

- Build up pectoral muscles—Even if you cannot build up breast tissue, you can strengthen and tone the pectoralis muscles underneath your breast.
- Roll your shoulders, do moderate weight-lifting and push-ups. Wear a good bra for support. Breast stretch marks (if tightened can lift your breasts) can be reduced through the application of tretinoin cream. (Reference: "Age Erasing Secrets" by Kevin Ireland)

How can I get rid of my double chin without surgery?

It may seem harmless but a double chin is unattractive to many people. Take heart. Here are simple ways to improve your looks:

- Lose weight. Ideally a 10-pound-weight loss ought to help you look younger. More importantly, it can remove your double chin.
- Cut your hair. Long hair draws attention to your neck. If you trim your hair, attention will be drawn away from your jaw line.
- Do not wear turtleneck shirts. Instead, use open necklines.
- Create makeup wonders. Use cosmetics to call attention to another part of your face—say, your eyes.

How do I project a positive self-image to help me become more successful?

Begin with yourself. You need to like yourself better. Practice positive self-talk. Attend confidence-building seminars, read self-help books, surround yourself with people who raise you up and not put you down. Affirm: "I am A-OK!"

Love and light!

Your Doctor Knows Best

Anastacio R. Aquino, MD, FPCP, FPCC, FACC

Question:

I have been having chest pains lately. Am I at risk of having a heart attack?

Doctor says...

There are many causes of chest pain, but the most common is angina. Angina is chest pain that occurs when your heart muscle does not get enough blood, causing discomfort that feels like pressure or a squeezing pain in your chest. You may also sometimes feel pain in your shoulders, neck, jaw or back, and it may also feel like indigestion. Angina puts you at risk of having a heart attack in the future.

There are two types of angina: stable and unstable. Stable angina is the most common, and it occurs when the heart is working harder than usual. People with stable angina experience chest discomforts that are usually predictable. For example, it occurs during exertion (such as running to catch a bus), or when a person is under mental or emotional stress. This type of angina is normally relieved with rest or with a drug called nitroglycerin, or both.

The other type is called unstable angina, in which the chest pain is unexpected and usually occurs while at rest. The discomfort brought by unstable angina may be more severe and prolonged than atypical angina (the first time a person has angina). Unlike stable angina, it can occur without physical exertion and is not immediately relieved by rest or medicine. Unstable angina is a very dangerous condition that requires emergency treatment. It is a sign that a heart attack could occur soon.

Angina or chest pain is caused by not enough blood supply to your heart. Not enough blood flow results from the build-up of fats, cholesterol and other substances in the coronary arteries that carry blood to the heart, or what we call atherosclerosis. If one or more arteries are partly clogged, not enough blood can flow through the heart, resulting to a condition called coronary artery disease.

There are several risk factors for angina and atherosclerosis which include a family history of premature coronary artery disease, cigarette smoking, diabetes, hypercholesterolemia (high blood cholesterol), and hypertension (high blood pressure).

Aside from chest discomfort, people suffering from angina may experience symptoms such as nausea, fatigue, shortness of breath, sweating, light-headedness, or weakness. In stable angina, episodes of pain usually lasts a short time (5 minutes or less). In unstable angina, pain may last longer (30 minutes) and may get continuously worse.

You can prevent or lower your risk for heart disease and angina by making lifestyle changes and getting treatment for related conditions like high blood cholesterol, high blood pressure, diabetes, and overweight or obesity.

If you want to know more about angina and the treatment for it, consult your doctor.

Dr. Aquino is an Internist-Cardiologist. He is a Professor at the College of Medicine at Saint Louis University (SLU) in Baguio City, and Chair of the Department of Medicine, SLU Hospital of Sacred Heart.

This column is supported by AstraZeneca Philippines as part of its disease awareness campaign. This is not intended to replace the advice of a healthcare professional. Always consult your doctor.

AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals (Inc.), Phils.
Km. 14 South Superhighway
Parañaque City, 1700 Philippines
Tel. no. (632) 777 8700; www.astrazeneca.com.ph

AstraZeneca cares

Stars come out to play

THIS YEAR'S TIMEZONE Celebrity Open at the Glorietta Activity Center was bigger and grander with some 48 celebrities, grouped into eight teams, battled it out for the win.

The starstruck crowd watched as their faves swayed their hands and danced, shot and raced on the popular Timezone games of Air Hockey, Superbike, Super Trivia, Daytona, DDR Supernova and everyone's favorite, Slam n' Jam.

Fred Payawan was hailed as the most skillful in Air Hockey. Susie Abrera emerged victorious in Super Trivia. Racing proud for Superbike was Anthony Suntay and Mike Tuason for the famous game Daytona. Besting the rest in basketball was Rob Johnson and dancing her way to the top was Ryza Cenon.

The White Team, composed of Anthony Suntay, Vince Hizon, Shaan Hizon, Jinno Rufino, Rob Johnson, and Paolo Trillo, was overall champion. First and second runners-up were the Bursting Red team and Mighty Blue team, respectively.

Each member will receive a round-trip ticket to Boracay with hotel accommodation, P12,000 worth of Timezone powercards, P1,000 worth of Metro Gaisano GCs, My Cinema GCs, Skechers watch, one month pass at Fitness First, and Timezone, Oreo and Goldilocks gift packs, and a trophy.

TIMEZONE Celebrity Open 2007 Grand Champion—Speedy White Team

BURSTING with energy. Red Team placed 1st runner-up: Phoemela Barranda, Mike Tuason, Gabby dela Merced, Louie Ysmael and JP Tuason

TIMEZONE president Raffy Prats

INNER AWARENESS
Jaime Licauco

How to become sensitive to psychic energy

WHY IS IT THAT SOME PEOPLE CAN sense danger or problem before it happens? Or they can hold an object belonging to a stranger and know accurate details about that person?

Others can feel or sense right away the presence of a spirit or invisible creatures in a place, while their companions may not feel anything at all.

These people have somehow, developed a sensitivity to subtle or psychic forces and energy. They are called by various names: sensitives, psychics or people with multi-sensory faculties.

They are able to combine all senses at once and form conclusions faster than ordinary individuals. They can "read" thoughts, "feel" colors or "see" invisible things.

Sixth sense

People with such heightened sensitivity to subtle or psychic forces represent the next phase of human evolution, according to some thinkers. They have developed an extra sense, or what is commonly known as the "Sixth Sense."

But everybody possesses a so-called Sixth Sense or psychic perception to a lesser or greater degree. It is not a monopoly of a few highly gifted individuals.

Given some training and mental discipline, anyone can develop his/her sensitivity to psychic forces or energy. Psychic functioning is a natural ability of every human being.

How can ordinary individuals, with no extraordinary psychic powers or perception develop or heighten his sensitivity to psychic or subtle forces? Simply by becoming aware of his thoughts and feelings at any given moment of time.

Awareness is therefore the key to this faculty. But awareness to what? Isn't it that when we are awake we are aware of things around us? Not necessarily.

Techniques

Consider this: Why is it that when two persons are looking at the same room, one will see or sense the presence of a spirit, but the other will not? The person who senses the spirit can even describe it while it is completely invisible to his/her companion.

This is because one has developed sensitivity to the spirits, the other has not.

Another example. If two persons hold a quartz crystal, one will feel a very strong energy emanating from the crystal, but the other person may feel nothing at all. Why is this so?

One person has developed a sensitivity to the subtle energy of the crystal, while the other has not.

There are very simple methods or techniques for developing one's sensitivity to psychic or subtle energy. The following are only a few examples of what anyone can do without any cost to him/her:

- Be aware of the energy emanating from a place or room you enter. How does the room feel when no one is around? How does it feel when another person enters the room without you looking at the person? Does the energy in the room change? Does your feeling change? What is the change?
- Can you tell the difference when a room contains a living plant and when the plant is not there?
- When you meet a person for the first time, can you tell the type of energy radiating out of him/her? Is it positive, negative or neutral? Can you sense feelings of affection, envy, hatred, jealousy or suspicion in a person without talking to him/her? Can you read the body language?
- When holding natural rock quartz crystals, can you tell the type of energy emitted by the crystal and can you distinguish the difference in the energy of each crystal? At first you may not feel any difference at all, but by practice this will soon be clear to you.
- Each living creature, from the lowest to the highest form of life, radiates certain colors called the aura. Can you sense light coming out of a person's body? From a plant or animal? Try sensing the aura of plants, animals and people around you.

Once you begin to focus on or be aware of the subtle energy emanating from objects, animals, plants and people, you will become more and more sensitive to the subtle forces that normally escape the average person. Later you can use this ability to read the soul of things.

Note: The next Soulmates, Karma & Reincarnation seminar will be at 1-5 p.m., July 14. Interested parties may call tel. nos. 8107245, 8926806; fax 8159890; or e-mail innerawareness_2005@yahoo.com.

MEDICard, The Healthcare I Deserve!

What are the health benefits if you donated blood?

Take Charge Doc!

July is the National Blood Donation Month. PNRC is encouraging healthy individuals to participate in this noble act. Yes, it is a noble act. It can save lives particularly those with hematologic disorders like Anemias especially Aplastic Anemias, Leukemias (blood cancer), Hemophilia (bleeding disorder) and Thalassemia and those with massive blood loss due to major surgery, miscarriage or childbirth, and gastrointestinal bleeding. Blood donation is beneficial not just to the recipient but to the donor as well. Here are some of the health benefits if we donate blood: You will receive vital health checks which include blood pressure, pulse rate and body temperature. You are able to get screened for the communicable diseases such as HIV Virus (AIDS), Hepatitis B & C virus (Jaundice), Malaria Parasite, Syphilis and also blood groups. It reduces the chances of ischemic heart diseases (beginning of heart problems) as frequent donations reduce the accumulated and unwanted iron load from the body. Blood donation is 100% safe. It has no possibility of getting communicable diseases since blood collecting set and needles used are sterile and also disposable. Our society is today threatened by scarcity of blood. Blood can't be manufactured nor can be synthesized. So let's save lives, share our blood and be a Good Samaritan.

This week's answer to our feature question is courtesy of our accredited doctor in Lipa City Batangas, Dr. Irene Castillo. Dr. Castillo, a medicine graduate of De La Salle University, is a member of the Philippine College of Physicians, Philippine Medical Association and the Lipa Medical Society. She spends her free time watching Movies, Singing and Dancing. MEDICard members may avail for her consultations at Metro Lipa Medical Center, Room 5 every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday 1 to 3 in the afternoon.

MEDICard's Medical Director, Dr. Nicky Montoya answers questions on health through the assistance and expertise of MEDICard's network of accredited specialists. Write to Dr. Nicky or E-mail him at inquiry@medicardphils.com for your inquiries on health matters.

MEDICard PHILIPPINES, INC.: 9th floor Bagtikan Building H.V. dela Costa Street, Salcedo Village, Makati City 1227 Trunkline: [illegible] Fax No.: 694-5720, 810-3855 Text: Key in MEDICARD and send to 2327 Globe subscribers and (0917) 845-2327 for non-Globe subscribers E-mail: inquiry@medicardphils.com Website: www.medicardphils.com

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor Emmie G. Velarde

sms feedback: inquirer ent name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) and 283 (Smart) or email us at entertainment@inquirer.com.ph Website: www.inquirer.net/entertainment

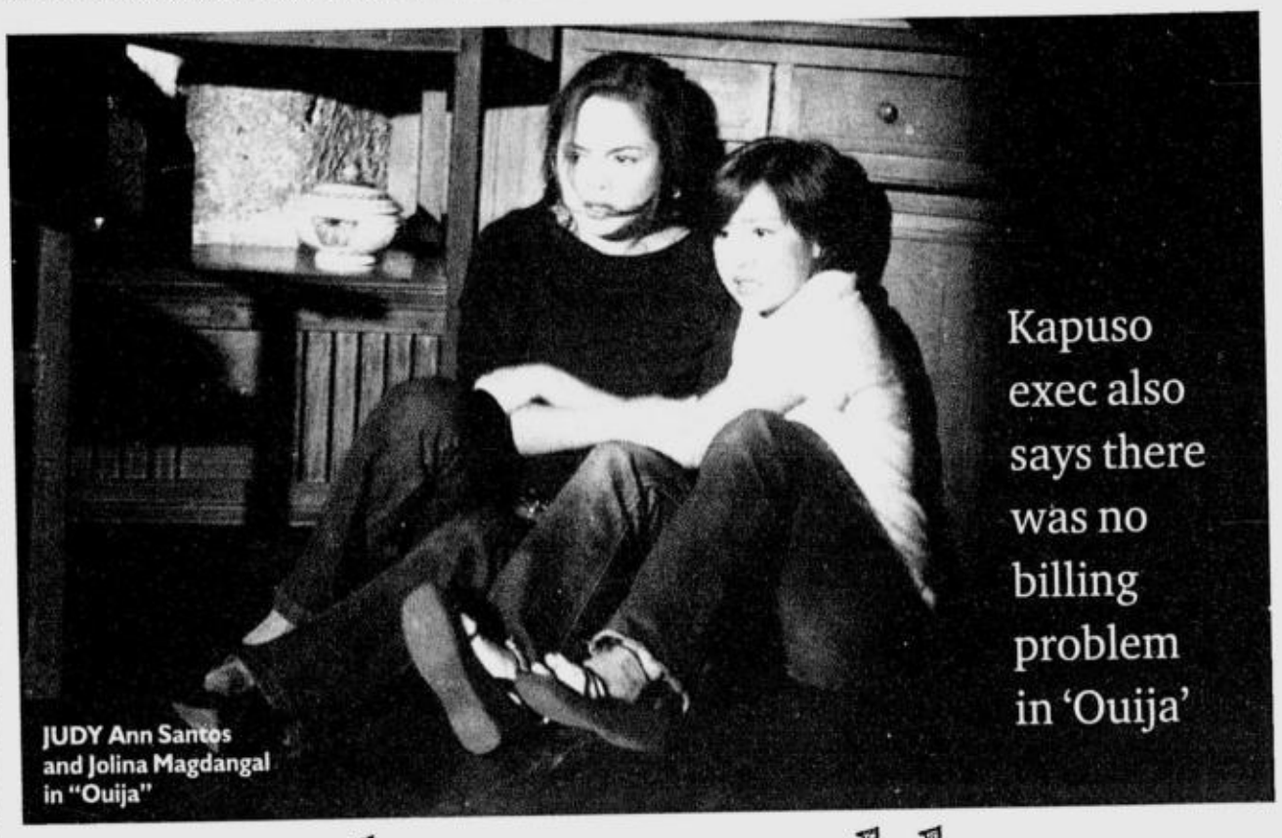
DUNKIN' DONUTS®

Jellooow!

Say hello to Dunkin' Donuts Iced Coffee Jelly

Just add P10 to add chewy jelly to your Dunkin' Donuts Iced Coffee.

© 2007 DD IP Holder LLC. All rights reserved.



JUDY Ann Santos and Jolina Magdangal in "Ouija"

Kapuso exec also says there was no billing problem in 'Ouija'

GMA 7 has no problem with any movie partner

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

TAKE FIVE

ALTHOUGH OTHER MOVIE co-productions are put to the test at the tills, GMA Films president Annette Gozon-Abrogar remains bullish about her company's partnership with Viva, specifically about "Ouija," their follow-up to "Till I Met You."

"GMA works well with all its partners," she notes. "We had no problems whatsoever. Viva is very supportive."

She says GMA Films enters all partnerships in good faith. "We do not make distinctions in terms of production and promotions."

As the opening date (July 25) of "Ouija" nears, the heads of both companies expressed confidence in their tandem.

Vincent del Rosario, Viva executive vice president, asserted that his company shares the same vision as the Kapuso network.

Gozon-Abrogar agrees: "We both want to give the best to our audience. [Apart from this,] we also want to reignite the local movie industry—to bring back its glory days."

With these in mind, she points out that both companies have gone to great lengths to polish this latest movie's sound and special effects.

"Sound is very important in horror movies,"

GMA/ D2

ANNETTE GOZON-ABROGAR

Carmina look-alike in sex video

DOLLY WOOD

Dolly Anne Carvajal

A READER (elgin_sweetpascual@yahoo.com) forwarded to me a shocking sex video of a girl who bears a striking resemblance to **Carmina Villaroel**. The guy's face wasn't shown.

The video clip must be on the Internet by now. Elgin (and I'm sure everyone who has seen it) wants to know if it's Mina or just a look-alike.

I'm sure it isn't her, but I texted Mina just the same for a reaction. She is one of the sweetest girls I know and it really bothers me that she's the target of malicious minds.

It's appalling that someone as wholesome as Mina is still not spared from scandals. Imagine to what extent some lunatics would go to besmirch a celebrity's name?

Who could be next in line? Celebrities, especially those whose reputation is not at pristine as Carmina's, better beware! The net can turn gross. Cyberspace can really come up with out-of-this-world stuff.

Now we shouldn't worry only about having safe sex. The act itself is no longer safe because you'll never know if the whole world will soon be watching.

More details

The plot thickens in the **Amalia Fuentes-Joey Stevens-Angie Aznar** triangle. My Cebu sources tipped me off on these details: "Angie is in her 30s and not 50s. She and her Italian husband **Gabrielle** have been separated and her affair with Joey has been going on for quite sometime now.

"Angie and Joey have a love child (boy) and they have a love nest in a Makati condo. She belongs to a prominent clan who owns a top university in Cebu."

Strong women like La Amalia know too well that when love dies, she doesn't have to die, too.

Model ex-lover

Another reader (drnocampo@yahoo.com) sent me this e-mail in defense of the controversial ex-lover of **John Lapus**—model **Jasper**, who now goes by the name of **Red Anderson**.

By John's own admission, Jasper was the cause of his misunderstanding with **Boy Abunda**. But that's all behind them now. Knowing John and Boy, they just laugh off all the crazy intrigues that only serve to spice up their colorful friendship (network war notwithstanding).

They both are no Big Bad Wolf to Little Red Posing Hood.

Hello Ms. Dolly,

I am a friend of Jasper/Red, the guy John Lapus mentioned two Sundays ago in "Showbiz Central." He admits being the ex of John but denies na stalker siya ni Boy Abunda.

He also wants to clarify that he didn't drop John like a hot potato. Red thanks John and Boy for being good to him in the past.

He is now doing his best to move on. He appeals to the public not to judge him. You may check his profile by logging on to www.mercatormodels.com.

Horror flick

Get ready to be spooked out of your wits with the GMA Films and Viva Films horror flick "Ouija."

Judy Ann Santos and **Jolina Magdangal** play half sisters who go home to Camiguin to bury their grandmother. This is where the chilling story starts. They dared to call on the spirits of the dead not knowing what terror they brought upon themselves.

I asked Jolens whose spirit she would want to summon and why. She says, "My *lolo* because I was only 8 when he died. He didn't get to see me become a celebrity. I'll ask him to always watch over me."

And what's the new thing she learned about Juday while shooting? "O.C. *pala siya. Kakatuwa*!," Jolens says, laughing. No doubt they were both O.C. during the shoot that's why their acting turned out impeccable.

To be Bea

PBB big winner **Bea Saw** really saw, came and conquered! Just like the previous champ

CARMINA/ D2

Robin lends voice to malaria cause

By Marinel R. Cruz

ACTION STAR ROBIN PADILLA IS as busy as a bee.

Robin, who converted to Islam while serving a brief prison term in the 1990s for illegal possession of firearms, is involved in various causes to help his Muslims brothers.

In a recent press briefing organized by the Department of Health's Movement Against Malaria (MAM), the "Bad Boy" of Philippine movies appealed for media support for his cause against the dreaded disease.

"I need your help in educating the people about this infectious disease," Robin, who has been a spokesperson of the movement for two years, told a gathering at the Manila Gold Club in Makati City last week. "You see, our Muslim brothers do not only fight off bullets and bombs, *pati rin pala mga lamok*."

Malaria, an infectious disease characterized by cycles of chills, fever and sweating, is transmitted to humans by infected mosquitoes.

Robin said he decided to be an anti-malaria advocate in 2004 when he visited Sulu and discovered that a large group of Muslims living in a school there had to deal not only with the raging war but with malaria as well.

"Our poor brothers cannot afford medicines. The best we could do is to keep them from getting sick," he told INQUIRER.

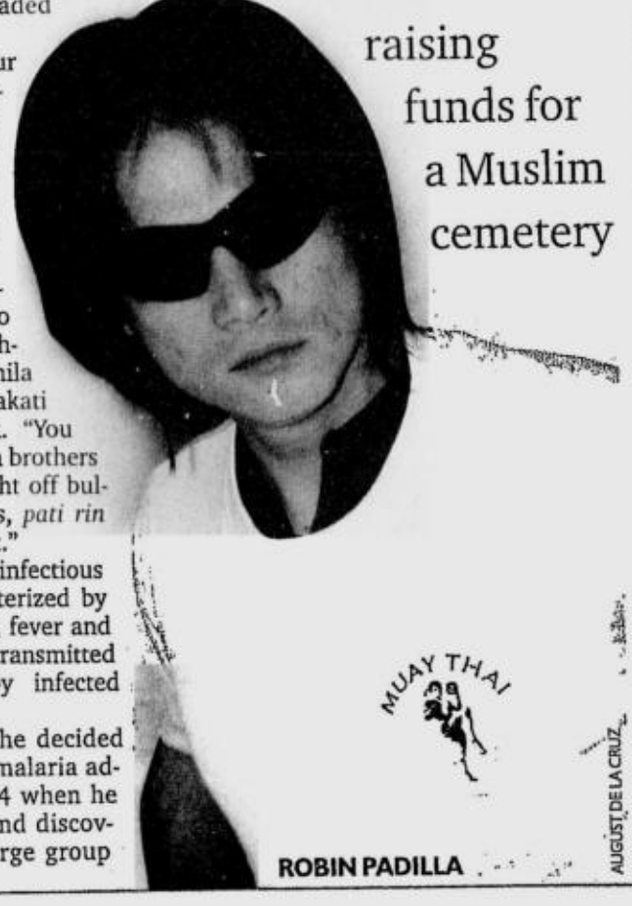
As MAM spokesperson, Robin said he intends to engage television networks in the campaign for the use of mosquito nets. Already, several radio programs have pledged support to the movement by airing daily announcements on the importance of putting up mosquito nets.

The actor's MAM posters are now being sent to rural health clinics all over the country.

Robin is also in the process of collecting funds for the development of a cemetery exclusive to Muslims. The establishment will be set up on a piece of land "donated by a Muslim brother" in Norzagaray, Bulacan, he said.

Muslims follow an old tradition of burying the dead within 24 hours of their passing, a practice some have found difficult to follow. "*Kung saan-saan na lang sila naililibing*," Robin said, explaining that not everyone can afford a decent burial place.

He is also raising funds for a Muslim cemetery



ROBIN PADILLA

AUGUST DE LA CRUZ

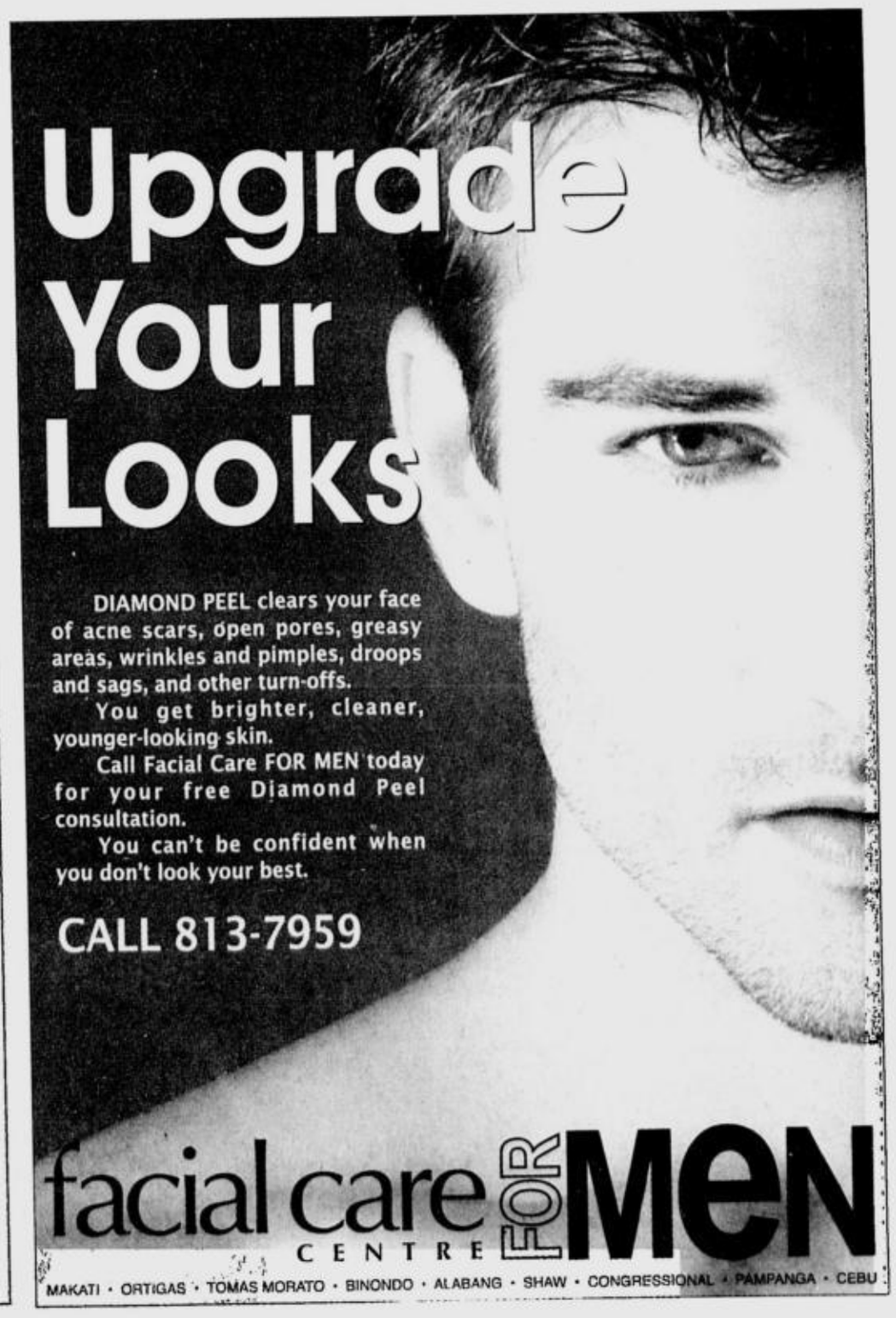
P1B collected

"So far, we've collected P1 million for the cemetery. A portion of this will be used for leveling the ground," he pointed out. "We have a long way to go, but at least we've taken the first steps."

Robin is scheduled to fly to Turkey this month to attend a conference concerning Liwanag ng Kapayapaan Foundation, a free preschool he built for Muslim kids in Quezon City which opened last month. A number of teacher aides are now training in an international school there.

Some 30 students in the preparatory level were admitted to the 1,100-sq. m. facility last month.

Meanwhile, after his top-rating action-adventure series "Asian Treasures" on GMA 7 ended its season run, Robin is set to do a Jose Javier Reyes film opposite Megastar Sharon Cuneta. He was set to meet last week with officials of GMA Films.



MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING

SHANG CINEPLEX
(Shangri-La Plaza, EDSA corner Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City)
1 (DOLBY) TRANSFORMERS
2 (DOLBY) DIE HARD 4.0
3 (DOLBY) TRANSFORMERS
4 (DOLBY) TRANSFORMERS
PREMIERE
(DOLBY) DIE HARD 4.0

Cinema 2000 Waltermart Makati
Waltermart Center, Chino Roces Ave. cor. Antonio Arnaiz Pio del Pilar, Makati City Tel 816.4214 / 816.4216
1 TRANSFORMERS
2 TRANSFORMERS
3 TIYANAKS
4 DIE HARD 4.0

starmall EDSA-SHAW
(Mandaluyong) tel. 7268160
3 DIE HARD 4.0
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX) TRANSFORMERS
5 RESERVED

metropolis star cinema
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(ALABANG) tel. 8504286, 5433394
1 TIYANAKS
2 DIE HARD 4.0
3 TRANSFORMERS
4 CAPE KARMA

THEATRES
(Pacific Mall Cabanatuan, Telephone No. (044) 600 3021)
1 DIE HARD 4.0
2 TRANSFORMERS
3 TIYANAKS

PACIFIC MALL LUCENA CINEMAGIC
Pacific Mall Lucena Tel (042) 660-8271
TRANSFORMERS
DIE HARD 4.0
RESERVED
RESERVED

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72
1 (DOS) TRANSFORMERS
2 (DOS) DIE HARD 4.0
3 (DTS) DIE HARD 4.0
4 GOLD (DTS) DIE HARD 4.0
5 GOLD (DOLBY) DIE HARD 4.0
6 GOLD (DOS) TRANSFORMERS
7 GOLD (DOLBY) TRANSFORMERS
8 (DOLBY) TIYANAKS
9 (DOLBY) FANTASTIC FOUR
10 (DOLBY) TRANSFORMERS

Blue Wave MARIKINA
Sumulong Highway cor. Mayor Gil Fernando Street, Sta. Niño, Marikina City tel. 9341927
1 (DOLBY) TRANSFORMERS
2 (DOLBY) TIYANAKS
3 (DOLBY) DIE HARD 4.0
4 (DOLBY) RESERVED

SUPER CINERAMA
Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto tel 7334228
1 (DOLBY) DIE HARD 4.0
2 TRANSFORMERS
3 TIYANAKS
4 DIE HARD 4.0
5 SILIP

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong tel 533.3851 / 533.3856
1 NEXT
2 TRANSFORMERS
3 TIYANAKS
4 CAPE KARMA

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 833.3290 / 833.3274
1 TIYANAKS
2 DIE HARD 4.0
3 TRANSFORMERS

Center Mall Cinema
Baguio Center Mall, Magsaysay Avenue (Baguio City) tel (074)- (4449346)
1 DIE HARD 4.0
2 TRANSFORMERS

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03
1 (DOLBY) DIE HARD 4.0
2 TIYANAKS
3 (DTS) DIE HARD 4.0
4 TRANSFORMERS

Centre Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 OCEAN'S THIRTEEN
2 TIYANAKS

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City) tel 687.6953 or 72
1 (DOLBY) DIE HARD 4.0
2 (DOLBY) TRANSFORMERS
3 (DOLBY) DIE HARD 4.0
4 (DOLBY) TRANSFORMERS

CINEMA 2000
Movie Theatres of the New Millenium

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 TIYANAKS
2 (DTS) TRANSFORMERS
3 (DOLBY) DIE HARD 4.0
4

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel. (049) 4111146
1 RESERVED
2 (DOLBY) RESERVED
3 (DTS) RESERVED
4 RESERVED

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771
1 DIE HARD 4.0
2 TIYANAKS
3 (DOLBY) TRANSFORMERS

Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729
1 INVISIBLE
2 TIYANAKS
3 (DOLBY) DIE HARD 4.0
4 (DTS) TRANSFORMERS

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Plandel) tel (044) 795.3320
1 DIE HARD 4.0
2 TRANSFORMERS
3 (DOLBY) TIYANAKS

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Gapan) tel. (044) 4867736
1 DIE HARD 4.0
2 TRANSFORMERS

Lianas Cinema
(Pasig) tel 640.4748
1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 WILDERNESS

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 (DOLBY) TRANSFORMERS
2 KALABIT
3 ANAKAN MO AKO
4 (DTS) NEXT

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 (DOLBY) TIYANAKS
2 NAGHUHUMIYAW
3 (DTS) DIE HARD 4.0
4 BORDERTOWN
5 TRANSFORMERS

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 INVISIBLE
2 TRANSFORMERS
3 TIYANAKS
4 DIE HARD 4.0

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029
1 PURI
2 PAPLAY NAGING BIGAS MAY BUMAYA

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
1 DIE HARD 4.0 — 1:25, 4:35, 7:45, 10:55 — PG-13
2 TRANSFORMERS — 2:20, 5:10, 8:00, 10:50 — G
3 DIE HARD 4.0 — 1:55, 5:05, 8:15, 11:25 — PG-13
4 TRANSFORMERS — 12:00, 2:50, 5:40, 8:30, 11:20 — G

HARRY POTTER AND THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX
TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE
WITH EARLY MORNING SCREENING
8:00 & 9:00 AM on July 11-14, 2007
FOR INQUIRIES CALL 687-6963
GUARANTEED SEATS
MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GREENHILLS CINEMAS
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA

THEATRE MALL GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!
NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 1 — DIE HARD 4.0 — 11:45, 2:35, 5:20, 8:05, 10:50 — PG-13
CINEMA 2 — TRANSFORMERS — 10:35, 1:25, 4:15, 7:05, 10:00 — GP
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

PROMENADE GREENHILLS
...a dinetertainment for all!
NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 3 — TRANSFORMERS / DIE HARD 4.0 — 12:45, 3:50 / 6:35, 9:20 — GP/PG-13
CINEMA 4 — TRANSFORMERS — 10:30, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30 — GP
CINEMA 5 — DIE HARD 4.0 — 11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00 — PG-13

TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. FOR CINEMA INQUIRIES, CALL: 722 4496.

MUSIC MUSEUM	July 7, 2007	Feelin' Las Vegas "Willie Nep"	8:30 PM
	August 24 & 25, 2007	Ogie Alcasid & Regine Velasquez	8:00 PM
TEATRINO PROMENADE GREENHILLS	July 06, 13, 20, 27, 2007 August 8-9, 15-16, 22-23, 29-30	Drag - Ons	10:00 PM
		Cerrudo Classico Classic	8:00 PM

FOR INQUIRIES PLS. CALL 722-4532 LOC 116

SHANG CINEPLEX
1 TRANSFORMERS — MTRCB GP — 12:00, 2:50, 5:40, 8:30
2 DIE HARD 4.0 — MTRCB PG-13 — 12:30, 3:40, 6:50, 10:00
3 TRANSFORMERS — MTRCB GP — 1:00, 3:50, 6:40, 9:30
4 TRANSFORMERS — MTRCB GP — 12:30, 3:20, 6:10, 9:00
PREMIERE THEATRE — DIE HARD (PG-13) 12:00, 3:10, 6:20, 9:30
Movies and schedules are subject to change without prior notice

Catch the Cineplex Special
"HARRY POTTER: ORDER OF THE PHOENIX"
Tickets now available!!
Showing on July 11, 2007 (Wednesday)
Call 633-2227 or 633-7851 loc 170 / 171 for more details

6th floor, Shangri-La Plaza Mall
EDSA corner Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City
Call 633-7851, loc. 171/ 170 or 633-2227 for more details
Shangri-La Plaza

POWER PLANT CINEMA
ROCKWELL CENTER, MAKATI TEL: 898-1440/41
DOLBY DIGITAL

TRANSFORMERS G 12:00,3:00,6:00,9:00	DIE HARD 4.0 PG13 1:30,4:10,6:50,9:30	TRANSFORMERS G 1:00,4:00,7:00,10:00
DIE HARD 4.0 PG13 12:10,2:40,5:20,8:00	TRANSFORMERS G 12:30,3:30 DIE HARD 4.0 PG13 6:20,9:00	TRANSFORMERS G 2:00,4:40,7:20,10:00

MOVIES & SCHEDULES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

Araneta Center aranetacenter.net
Gateway Mall gatewaymall.com.ph
Farmers Plaza

Gateway CinePlex*10
FULL STADIUM SEATING
EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

TRANSFORMERS 12:00 / 1:00 / 2:00 3:00 / 4:00 / 5:00 6:00 / 7:00 / 8:00 9:00 / 10:00	DIE HARD 4 12:20 / 1:40 / 2:20 3:00 / 4:20 / 5:00 5:40 / 7:00 /7:40 8:20 / 10:00

GMA ARANETA CINEMA

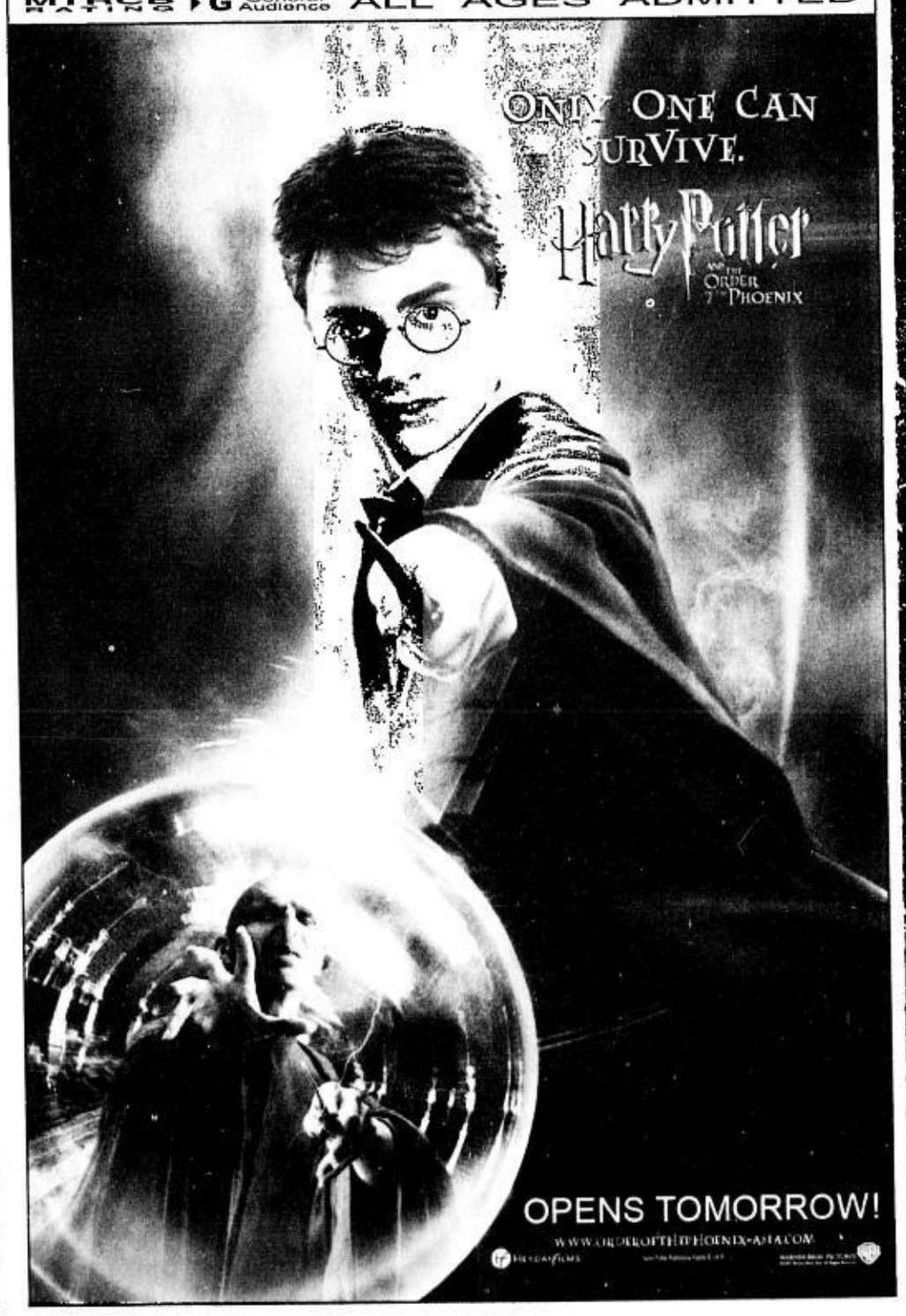
FANTASTIC 4: SILVER SURFER 1:10 / 3:20 / 5:30 / 7:40 / 9:50 — DOLBY DIGITAL-EX
TIYANAKS 1:00 / 3:10 / 5:20 / 7:30 / 9:40
DIE HARD 4 1:00 / 3:40 / 6:20 / 9:00

KIMALL 5
1 TRANSFORMERS 12:30 / 3:10 / 5:50 / 8:30
2 TIYANAKS 11:55 / 2:05 / 4.15 / 6:25 / 8:35
3 DIE HARD 4 12:30 / 3:10 / 5:50 / 8:30
4 PARAISO 12:10 R4 / 1:30 / 3:50 / 6:10 / 8:30
5 FANTASTIC 4: SILVER SURFER 12:00 / 2:10 / 4:20 / 6:30 / 8:40
DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

For ticket inquiries, please call TicketNet at 911-5555 or log on to www.ticketnet.com.ph

ARANETA COLISEUM
www.aranetacoliseum.com
ENGELBERT HUMPERDINCK
LIVE! AUGUST 19 SUN / 7PM RAIN OR SHINE

MTRCB RATING G General Audience ALL AGES ADMITTED



TUESDAY, JULY 10,

GMA 7 h

From page D1

she explains. "Even with
make the audience jump
Gozon-Abrogar also
separate sound and di
from international buye
GMA and Viva are l
"Ouija," top-billed by Ju
gal.
Premieres in key US
gas, Tampa, Washingto
being set in September.

What attracted you to
I caught a docume
Haunting." It was abou
ghost after playing and
ly scary because it was l
When I was younge
with my friends. Just fo
realized it's not just a ga

Why did you choose
What was it like worki
We believe in and s
impressed by his work
a feel for Asian horror.
park. He's a team playe

What was it like worki
It was a joy. Toget
(Ramos), we formed or
that all the characters a
We gave specific ins
lawan to balance their
lems were encountered
operative.

Where is post-product
In Ignite Manila, bu

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

as no ...

eyes closed, the sound alone should
from their seats."
notes that "we've made sure to have
alogue tracks—a common request
rs."
ooking beyond the local market for
dy Ann Santos and Jolina Magdan-

cities like New York, Seattle, Las Ve-
n DC, New Jersey and Chicago are

the story of "Ouija"?

tary on the Discovery Channel, "A
a British family that's haunted by a
lestroying a Ouija board. It was real-
ased on a true story.
I used to play "spirit of the glass"
fun. But after watching the docu, I
me, but a very serious matter.

Topel Lee to direct the project?
ng with him?

ipport young filmmakers. We were
n "Shake, Rattle and Roll 8." He has
Working with him is a walk in the

ng with Juday and Jolens?

ier with Iza (Calzado) and Rhian
e big happy family. We made certain
e equally important to the story.
tructions to [scriptwriter] Aloy Ad-
xposure and roles. No billing prob-
because everyone was open and co-

ion being done?

the final mixing of sound is being done in Thailand. We made sure we had enough time to polish the film. In effect, we had more than three months of post-production after principal photography.

Do you have plans of distributing abroad?

Absolutely. When we showed it to some potential producers and distributors in Hong Kong, they all said that they were eagerly awaiting the final cut. We want to join the LA Scream Fest, which already recognized a Filipino film (Yam Laranas' "Sigaw").

Our dream is for "Ouija" to become another benchmark in Asian horror.

What are your future projects for GMA Films?

We are presently on the preproduction stage for three movies.

There is another horror movie in the works, starring Richard Gutierrez. It's set to start shooting by the end of the month.

We are also pre-producing a romantic comedy for Regine Velasquez and Ogie Alcasid, as well as for Sharon Cuneta and Robin Padilla.

Direk Jose Javier Reyes is still finalizing the script for the Sharon-Robin movie. We hope to start by August. As for the Regine-Ogie movie, target date to start is October.

There's also a plan to do "Darna" in 2008? Who will be your Darna?

Until now, we are still on the negotiation stage. Of course, our first choice is Angel Locsin. But there are no formal talks as of now as we have yet to clear the movie rights.

Carmina look-alike ...

From page D1

(Kim Chui), she's got that *chinita* charm.

Will she equal or surpass Kim's popularity? PBB has made it easy for her to become an instant star but it's tough to really be a star with staying power.

As she makes her entry into the dizzying world of show biz, will Bea be saying "Thanks Big Bro!" or "Oh brother! Why did I bother (joining)?"

New teen star

Cedric Jose, a 17-year-old UP student, is lead star in "Idol: Pag-asa ng Bayan," a film about cheating. He bested established teen stars when he auditioned for the role.

The film, which has just concluded its campus tour, has made a strong impact on students from various universities. A must-see for today's youth, says Fr. Nick Cruz.

"Idol" will have three premiers—at the SM Mall of Asia, SM Cebu and SM Davao—on July 20. It opens Aug. 1.

Idle teens now have a new idol to look up to.

- E-mail wateringholeshangri-la@yahoo.com.

SM CINEMA
SHARE A MOVIE WITH A LOVED ONE

movietime SHOWTIME

VISIT WWW.SMCINEMA.COM
Powered by WWW.YEHEY.COM

Your life as a movie

BIG MOVIES • BIG STARS • BIG SHOWS • BIG EVENTS

Don't miss the most anticipated movie event of the year!

Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix

Experience the movie's explosive finale in **IMAX 3D** at

SAN MIGUEL Coca-Cola IMAX THEATRE

Tickets now available.

P 350 (Monday to Thursday, before 5pm)
P 400 (Monday to Thursday, 5pm onwards, Friday, Saturday & Sunday, Holiday whole day)

Please call 556-IMAX (4629) or 556 0242 for inquiries and reservations.

OPENS JULY 11

SCREENING TIME	JULY 11 WEDNESDAY	JULY 12 THURSDAY	JULY 13 FRIDAY	JULY 14 SATURDAY	JULY 15 SUNDAY	JULY 16 MONDAY	JULY 17 TUESDAY
11:00 AM	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	SOLD OUT	FEW SEATS	OPEN	OPEN
2:00 PM	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT	OPEN	OPEN
5:00 PM	FEW SEATS	OPEN	OPEN	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT	OPEN	OPEN
8:00 PM	SOLD OUT	FEW SEATS	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT	OPEN	OPEN
11:00 PM	OPEN	OPEN	FEW SEATS	SOLD OUT	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN

Subject to change without prior notice. You may also call your nearest SM Cinema branch and The Podium Cinema for their respective advance ticket selling screening schedules

METRO MANILA

SM MALL OF ASIA 556-0104
SAN MIGUEL Coca-Cola IMAX THEATRE
T-REX
12:00PM 3:30PM
Admission Prices: P 200
ANT BULLY
1:30PM
Admission Prices: P 250
1 TRANSFORMERS
2 DIE HARD 4
3 TRANSFORMERS
4 FANTASTIC FOUR
5 TIYANAKS
6 PARAISO
PREMIERE CINEMA
DIE HARD 4
CENTERSTAGE
TRANSFORMERS

THE PODIUM
CINEMA 1
TRANSFORMERS
CINEMA 2
DIE HARD 4
633-8976

SM NORTH EDSA 929-5452
1 DIE HARD 4
2 TRANSFORMERS
3 DIE HARD 4
4 TRANSFORMERS
5 TRANSFORMERS
6 DIE HARD 4
7 TRANSFORMERS
8 TIYANAKS
9 FANTASTIC FOUR
10 PARAISO
11 DIE HARD 4
12 TRANSFORMERS

SM MEGACINEMA 633-1901
1 DIE HARD 4
2 PARAISO
3 TRANSFORMERS
4 TRANSFORMERS
5 DIE HARD 4
6 DIE HARD 4
7 DIE HARD 4
8 FANTASTIC FOUR
9 TRANSFORMERS
10 TRANSFORMERS
11 TRANSFORMERS
12 TIYANAKS

SM CITY FAIRVIEW 935-0749
1 PARAISO
2 TIYANAKS
3 DIE HARD 4
4 TRANSFORMERS
5 FANTASTIC FOUR
6 DIE HARD 4
7 DIE HARD 4
8 TIYANAKS
9 TRANSFORMERS
10 TRANSFORMERS
11 WILDERNESS
12 NEXT

SM CITY STA. MESA 716-1416
1 DIE HARD 4
2 DIE HARD 4
3 TRANSFORMERS
4 TRANSFORMERS
5 TRANSFORMERS
6 BUG
7 FANTASTIC FOUR
8 PARAISO
9 TIYANAKS
10 NEXT

SM CITY SAN LAZARO 786-2488
1 DIE HARD 4
2 TRANSFORMERS
3 TRANSFORMERS
4 PARAISO
5 FANTASTIC FOUR/ DIE HARD 4
6 TIYANAKS

SM SOUTHMALL 806-6888
1 TRANSFORMERS
2 TIYANAKS
3 TRANSFORMERS
4 DIE HARD 4
5 DIE HARD 4
6 FANTASTIC FOUR
7 DIE HARD 4
8 TRANSFORMERS
9 PARAISO

SM CITY BICUTAN 776-3055
1 DIE HARD 4
2 TRANSFORMERS
3 TIYANAKS
4 TRANSFORMERS

SM CITY MANILA 523-9240
1 DIE HARD 4
2 TRANSFORMERS
3 TIYANAKS
4 TRANSFORMERS
5 FANTASTIC FOUR
6 DIE HARD 4
7 OCEAN'S 13
8 PARAISO
9 BUG
10 TRANSFORMERS
11 NEXT
12 TRANSFORMERS

SM CITY DASMARINAS (046)4323201-04
1 DIE HARD 4
2 TRANSFORMERS
3 TIYANAKS
4 TRANSFORMERS

SM VALENZUELA 293-3917
1 DIE HARD 4
2 TRANSFORMERS
3 TIYANAKS
4 TRANSFORMERS

SM CITY SUCAT 829-4975
1 TIYANAKS
2 DIE HARD 4
3 TRANSFORMERS
4 TRANSFORMERS

movietime PROMO

Watch and Win at SM Cinema

BUY YOUR TICKETS
on July 11 (Wednesday) and get an exclusive
Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix
memo pad
for every 4 tickets purchased

Promo is available at:
SM CINEMA, SM MALL OF ASIA CINEMAS, THE PODIUM
and
SAN MIGUEL Coca-Cola IMAX THEATRE
where you can experience the movie's explosive finale in IMAX 3D.

MTRCB Rating: General Patronage   Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2030 Series of 2007

LUZON

SM CITY BACOOR (046)417-3868
1 NEXT
2 FANTASTIC FOUR
3 TRANSFORMERS
4 DIE HARD 4
5 TIYANAKS
6 PARAISO
7 TRANSFORMERS
8 DIE HARD 4

SM CITY CLARK (045)625-5844-45
1 TRANSFORMERS
2 TRANSFORMERS
3 DIE HARD 4
4 DIE HARD 4
5 TIYANAKS
6 PARAISO

SM CITY MARILAO (044)9332013-17
1 TRANSFORMERS
2 TIYANAKS
3 TRANSFORMERS
4 DIE HARD 4

SM CITY BATANGAS 885-6401-04
1 TRANSFORMERS
2 TRANSFORMERS/ MR. BEAN'S HOLIDAY
3 DIE HARD 4
4 TIYANAKS

SM CITY PAMPANGA (045)9637681-85
1 TRANSFORMERS
2 DIE HARD 4
3 TRANSFORMERS
4 DIE HARD 4
5 PARAISO
6 TIYANAKS

SM CIY LIPA (043) 784-0187
1 INVISIBLES
2 DIE HARD 4
3 TRANSFORMERS
4 TIYANAKS

SM CITY LUCENA (042)7108977-80
1 DIE HARD 4
2 TRANSFORMERS
3 TIYANAKS
4 THE SHOOTER

SM CITY BAGUIO (074)6197838-39
1 TRANSFORMERS
2 TIYANAKS
3 DIE HARD 4
4 TRANSFORMERS

SM SUPERCENTER MOLINO (046)474-3160
1 DIE HARD 4
2 TRANSFORMERS
3 TRANSFORMERS
4 TIYANAKS

SM CITY STA. ROSA (049)5349811
1 TRANSFORMERS
2 TIYANAKS
3 DIE HARD 4
4 TRANSFORMERS

VISAYAS MINDANAO

SM CITY DAVAO (082)2976998
1 DIE HARD 4
2 PARAISO/ FANTASTIC FOUR
3 DIE HARD 4
4 TRANSFORMERS
5 TIYANAKS
6 TRANSFORMERS

SM CITY CAGAYAN (088)859-2884
1 DIE HARD 4
2 TIYANAKS
3 DIE HARD 4
4 TRANSFORMERS

SM CITY ILOILO (033)3209422
1 TRANSFORMERS
2 INVISIBLES
3 DIE HARD 4
4 TIYANAKS
5 DIE HARD 4
6 TRANSFORMERS
7 RESERVED
8 PARAISO

SM CITY CEBU (032)231-3876
1 DIE HARD 4
2 TRANSFORMERS
3 DIE HARD 4
4 FANTASTIC FOUR
5 PARAISO
6 TIYANAKS
7 TRANSFORMERS
8 DIE HARD 4

SM CITY BACOLOD (034) 708 1010
1 TRANSFORMERS
2 DIE HARD 4
3 TIYANAKS
4 DIE HARD 4

SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MOVIE LISTING, MTRCB RATING, SCREENING SCHEDULES AND THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT SM CINEMA

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

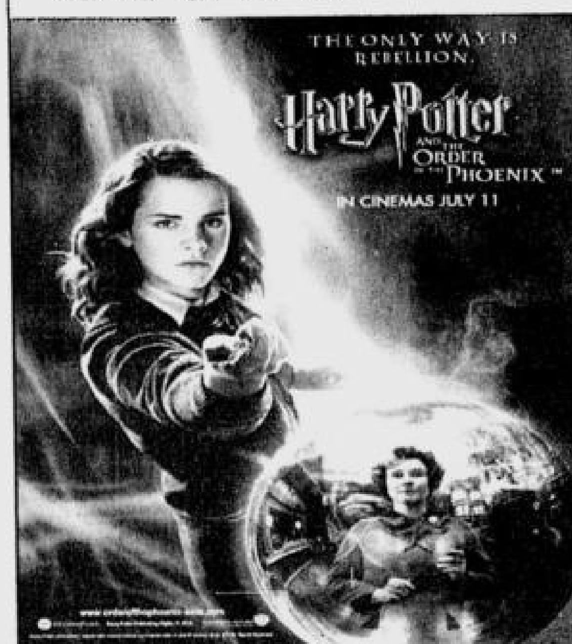
MOVIEWORLD

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA
Ticket Price THX-P180, 130 Indie Sine: 100 632-9116

1 DIE HARD 4 • THX
11:30 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30
2 DIE HARD 4
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00
3 DIE HARD 4
1:30 4:00 6:30 9:00
4 TRANSFORMERS
12:45 3:30 6:15 9:00
5 TRANSFORMERS
11:00 1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00
6 TRANSFORMERS
1:15 4:00 6:45 9:30
7 FANTASTIC FOUR
1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50
8 indieSine: GMA Short Films
1:30 3:20 5:10 7:00 8:50
9 PARAISO
12:15 2:35 4:55 7:15 9:35
10 TIYANAKS
1:00 3:10 5:20 7:30 9:40



Get a HARRY POTTER AND THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX folder for a MINIMUM single purchase of two (2) REGULAR MOVIE TICKETS

A customer may get a MAXIMUM of two (2) folders for single ticket purchases of MORE THAN 2.

*Offer also valid for advance ticket sales.
Promo period: JULY 11 to 17

Get these (2) two different folder designs now!

OPENS JULY 11 AT

ERMITA
Ticket Price: P110 / P120

1 DIE HARD 4
11:00 1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00
2 BUG 12:00 1:55 3:40
FANTASTIC FOUR 4:05 6:00 8:00 10:00
3 TRANSFORMERS
12:15 3:10 6:05 9:00
4 PARAISO
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 10:00
5 TIYANAKS
12:50 3:05 5:20 7:35 10:00
6 DIE HARD 4
12:30 3:20 6:10 9:00
7 TRANSFORMERS
11:00 1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00

METRO EAST
Ticket Price: P100 / P110 682-8193 • 682-8199

1 TRANSFORMERS
2:50 5:50
2 DIE HARD 4
11:50 2:50 5:50 8:50
3 DIE HARD 4
12:20 3:20 6:20 9:20
4 TRANSFORMERS
11:45 2:50 5:50 9:00
5 PARAISO
12:00 2:15 4:30 6:45 9:00
6 FANTASTIC FOUR
1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00 9:00
7 DIE HARD 4
11:20 2:20 5:20 8:20
8 TIYANAKS
12:10 2:25 4:40 6:55 9:10

NOVALICHES
Ticket Price: P90 / P100 935-3231 / 935-3229-30

1 DIE HARD 4
2 DIE HARD 4
3 DIE HARD 4
4 TIYANAKS
5 TRANSFORMERS
6 TRANSFORMERS

PIONEER
Ticket Price: P100 / P110 687-5378

1 DIE HARD 4
11:00 2:00 5:00 8:00
2 DIE HARD 4
1:30 4:30 7:30
3 TRANSFORMERS
3:15 5:55 8:35
4 TRANSFORMERS
12:05 2:45 5:25 8:05

BEAT the LINES and GET your TICKETS in ADVANCE!!!
Tickets for Harry Potter will be available starting JULY 06 until 13 at Robinsons Movieworld Galleria, Ermita, Metro East and Pioneer
OPENS JULY 11

STA. ROSA
Ticket Price: P80 / P90 (049) 837-0907

1 DIE HARD 4
2 DIE HARD 4
3 TIYANAKS
4 FANTASTIC FOUR
5 TRANSFORMERS

LIPA
Ticket Price: (043) 757-3664 P90 (043) 312-5870

1 DIE HARD 4
2 DIE HARD 4
3 THE INVISIBLE
4 TIYANAKS
5 TRANSFORMERS

DASMARIÑAS
Ticket Price: P80 / P90 (046) 416-4332

1 FANTASTIC FOUR
2 TRANSFORMERS
3 DIE HARD 4
4 DIE HARD 4
5 TIYANAKS

IMUS
Ticket Price: P100 (046) 875-3838 (046) 471-8188

1 DIE HARD 4
2 DIE HARD 4
3 NEXT
4 TRANSFORMERS
5 TIYANAKS
6 FANTASTIC FOUR

ANGELES
Ticket Price: P90 / P95 (045) 892-2348

1 DIE HARD 4
2 TRANSFORMERS
3 TIYANAKS
4 DIE HARD 4

TARLAC

1 DIE HARD 4
2 TRANSFORMERS
3 THE INVISIBLE

STARMILLS
Ticket Price: P80 / P90 (045) 875-1927

1 TRANSFORMERS
2 FANTASTIC FOUR
3 TRANSFORMERS
4 TIYANAKS
5 DIE HARD 4
6 DIE HARD 4

BACOLOD
Ticket Price: P70 (034) 441-0459

1 DIE HARD 4
2 TRANSFORMERS
3 DIE HARD 4
4 RESERVE
5 THE INVISIBLE
6 TIYANAKS

ILOILO
Ticket Price: P70.50 / P80.50 (033) 336-8070

1 DIE HARD 4
2 TRANSFORMERS
3 DIE HARD 4
4 TRANSFORMERS
5 TIYANAKS
6 THE INVISIBLE

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Mainstream in denial

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

THE MOVIE TIMES ARE CHANGING radically but, for some mainstream producers, it's still business as usual.

Instead of making adjustments to keep up with the changing times, they're digging their heels in and hanging on to old practices.

Is it any wonder that their new productions look old and fail to interest the new movie audience?

That's the first reality that some producers refuse to accept: that the Filipino movie audience has changed. These days, it's predominantly young. It also has access to a lot of new entertainment options, so the movies are no longer their prime source of diversion.

Bored with old formats

MOST significant of all, now that ticket prices go from P70 to P150, moviegoing is no longer the spontaneous, whimsical option it used to be. Viewers now *decide* to see a particular film, so they make more judicious use of their entertainment peso.

In addition, many Filipinos' OCW experience has expanded their viewing horizons. After being exposed to entertainment abroad, some OCWs are now bored with the old movie formats that some producers still churn out.

Returning OCWs have also brought home DVDs and other entertainment gizmos that enable their families to devise their own video programming, so going to a movie theater is no longer a must.

These and other developments have indeed changed the demographic face of the Filipino moviegoer, so producers should make their own adjustments, as the times require, or else they'll be left far behind.

Choice of story material, style, casting and marketing approach need to keep up with the swiftly morphing movie times, or else producers' new offerings won't pass muster.

Take the simple matter of action films. Ever since the 1960s, action movies were popular staples, and many of our top male stars specialized in action dramas. Flash-forward to 2007—and the action format is almost extinct, with yesterday's action stars now working mostly on TV sitcoms!

If such a major movie format as the action film can experience such a radical reversal of fortunes, producers should realize that, in the movie business these days, practically the only aspect that doesn't change—is the propensity for change itself.

Which is not to say that today's moviegoer bears no relation to his "ancestors" of old. Teen romantic comedies today are every bit as frothy, evanescent and silly as they were in the '50s. Indeed, many of the teen film plots today are mere hip-and-hopped up clones of the hoary, dog-eared stories of old.

Shorter attention span

BUT the *style* of storytelling has changed. Today's teen viewer has a shorter attention span, no thanks to his lifetime exposure to TV and commercials—so, today's movies are generally shorter and more to the point than yesterday's long drawn-out romantic fantasies.

Many other factors conspire to make today's film scene even more difficult to master than before. To cite just one more element, the dominance of Hollywood blockbusters has increased, no thanks to the government's phlegmatic defense of and support of local movies. Is it any wonder, therefore, that mainstream production has dipped from 150 to 50 annually?

Most pertinently of all, some old-time or "old-concept" producers refuse to accept the fact that a whole alternative and parallel movie industry has invented itself into extensive being in the past five years.

The digital movie industry, with its "bargain basement" budgets, now provides most of the creativity and excitement that powers and empowers the local movie scene.

Yes, most of its productions don't turn a big profit at the tills. Yes, the mainstream audience still haven't warmed up to its edgy films. Yes, a lot of technical tweaking still needs to be done to enable digital movies to appeal to many more viewers.

But, on point of actual achievement, they're providing most of the real action that has been keeping the Filipino film industry and its audience from going to sleep!

So, the wise mainstream producer would do well to look into the burgeoning digital scene, and connect with it in some way as that's where the future of Filipino movies lies.

Aguilera fever in Burn

RECENT MANILA VISITOR Christina Aguilera is featured in Burn music magazine's July-August issue, along with Maroon 5 and other hot music biz celebrities.

Lucky readers can win CDs of Sinosikat?, Maroon 5 or Joss Stone, plus stylish Fergie (Black Eyed Peas) and Joss Stone shirts.

Sinosikat? likewise takes fans, track by track, through its self-titled debut album.

Plus, Kitchie Nadal reveals what she's been up to in the past months.

Did you know Take That is back, minus Robbie Williams, or that Up Dharma Down recently had a concert in Hong Kong? And yes, Silent Sanctuary has a new album.

For homebound readers this typhoon season, Burn has these special section features: 1) how to record your own songs, 2) how to silk-screen your own shirt, and 3) how to create your own podcast.

The issue is now available at newsstands, for P70.

TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE!!! for Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix at Robinsons Movieworld GALLERIA • ERMITA METRO EAST and PIONEER

OPENS JULY 11 AT

AT THE CINEMAS

Reserve your tickets by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.
Movie schedules may change without prior notice. For verification, please call 729-7777

GLORIETTA 1	1 DIE HARD 4.0	2 TRANSFORMERS	3 DIE HARD 4.0	4 TIYANAKS
GLORIETTA 4	1 DIE HARD 4.0	2 TRANSFORMERS	3 THX DIE HARD 4.0 GUARANTEED SEATS	
	4 FANTASTIC 4: RISE OF THE SILVER SURFER	5 TRANSFORMERS	6 DIE HARD 4.0	7 TRANSFORMERS
GREENBELT 1	1 TRANSFORMERS	2 DIE HARD 4.0		
GREENBELT 3	1 THX TRANSFORMERS GUARANTEED SEATS	2 THX DIE HARD 4.0 GUARANTEED SEATS		
	3 DIE HARD 4.0 GUARANTEED SEATS	4 DIE HARD 4.0 GUARANTEED SEATS	5 TRANSFORMERS GUARANTEED SEATS	
ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 THX DIE HARD 4.0	2 DIE HARD 4.0		
	3 TRANSFORMERS	4 DIE HARD 4.0	5 TRANSFORMERS	
AYALA CENTER CEBU	1 DIE HARD 4.0	2 DIE HARD 4.0	3 TRANSFORMERS	4 TRANSFORMERS
MARKET! MARKET!	1 DIE HARD 4.0	2 TIYANAKS		
	3 TRANSFORMERS	4 DIE HARD 4.0	5 TRANSFORMERS	
TRINOMA • THX Certified • All-Digital Sound • All-Stadium Seating • Computerized Ticketing System • Recliner Seats	1 TIYANAKS	2 TRANSFORMERS	3 TRANSFORMERS GUARANTEED SEATS	4 DIE HARD 4.0 GUARANTEED SEATS
	5 TRANSFORMERS	6 DIE HARD 4.0	7 THX DIE HARD 4.0 GUARANTEED SEATS	

AT THE MALLS

CONCIERGE HOTLINE NUMBERS:
Glorietta - 752 7272
Greenbelt - 757 4853 to 54
Alabang Town Center - 842 2782; 772 1860
Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231 5342 loc. 324
Market! Market! - 886 7519
TriNoma - 901 3000

Ayala Malls

Glorietta	City Finds at the Park July 13 & 14, 2007 at Glorietta 3 Park
Greenbelt	The Fashion Sale (Up to 70% discount from participating Greenbelt 3 & 4 stores) July 1 to 15, 2007
Alabang Town Center	Electroworld Exhibit July 13 to 22, 2007
Ayala Center Cebu	AV Surfer Exhibit July 1 to 15, 2007
Market! Market!	BPI Appliance Madness July 6 to 22, 2007
Greenbelt Onstage	ONSTAGE - The perfect spot for concerts, stage plays & coporate events is now accepting bookings for May to July 2007 For bookings, pls. call 752-7862 or 757-3861
Ayala Museum	Damian Domingo: The First Great Filipino Painter Exhibit - June 19 to Jan. 6, 2008 Pioneers of Philippine Art - June 15 to January 6, 2008 For more info, pls. call 757-7117 to 21 loc. 14 or email museum_inquiry@ayalamuseum.org
TriNoma	BARBIE BIRTHDAY BASH July 1 (2PM & 4PM) at the Activity Center HUMAN'S RICO BLANCO EXHIBIT July 2 to 15 (Mall Hours) at the 1st Level Exhibit Area

Watch DIE HARD 4.0 at THX CERTIFIED CINEMAS

Glorietta 4 • Greenbelt 3
Alabang Town Center • Trinoma

Puts you into the middle of the action in a way no ordinary theater can

NOW SHOWING AT AYALA MALLS CINEMAS

Buy your tickets now!
Or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservation.
MTRCB Rating: Parental Guidance 13 (PG-13)

Grocery Shopping Spree Promo

Get a chance to win a P50,000 grocery shopping spree for every P500 purchase at Alabang Town Center from July 1 to August 31

Plus, 5 winners of P10,000 grocery shopping sprees and 50 winners of Makati Supermarket grocery baskets!

Shop with Alabang

Glorietta • Greenbelt • Alabang Town Center • Ayala Center Cebu • Market! Market! • TriNoma

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

CALL CENTER JOB FA JULY 10-1

Contact Center Association of the Philippines

Call Center Conference Expo 2007

A Special Supplement on Call Center

SPECIAL NEWSPAPER SUPPLEMENT

TUESDAY, JULY 10, 2007

PHILIPPINE CALL CENTER ROAD MAP 2010

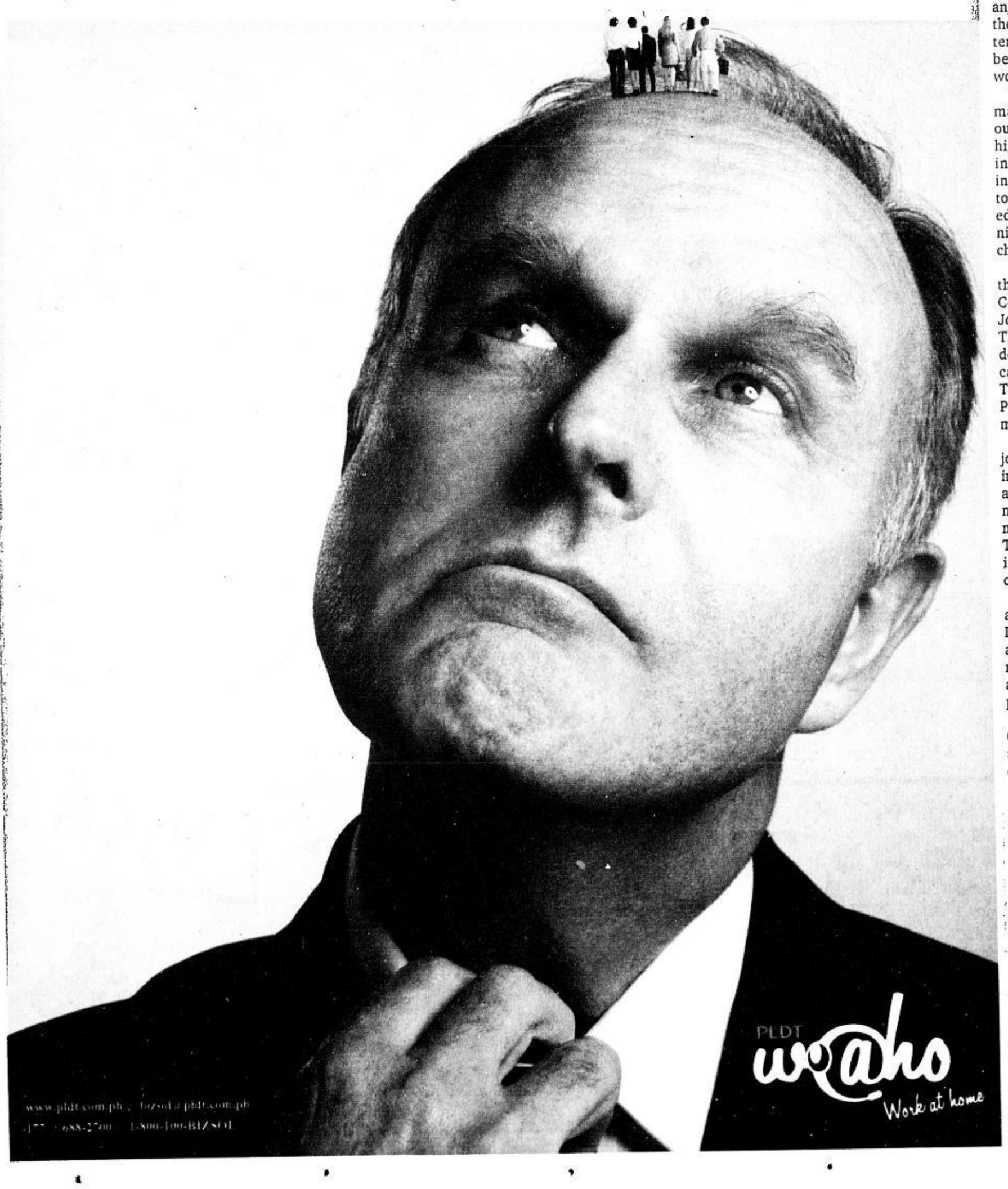
Biggest call center conference unveils industry's direction

Off the top of your head...
How many call center agents are you going to lose this year?

As a call center operator, you already know one of this year's most challenging problems will be HR-related, specifically agent retention and attrition. It's getting harder to keep your most valuable agents with your company. PLDT can help you do that.

The PLDT WAHO Guarantee: We guarantee clear and stable Voice Quality for your call center's connections to all your work-at-home agents; these connections are totally secured. We ensure that WAHO passes stringent test parameters that meet international call center standards.

With PLDT WAHO (Work at Home), you get the option of tapping into a growing portion of the workforce who otherwise can't be included into normal call center operations. Try WAHO now. The labor pool is larger and more flexible than you think.



THE CCAP CALL CENTER CONFERence and Expo is back, and it's bigger than ever! Now on its third run, the two-day flagship event of the Contact Center Association of the Philippines is the annual gathering of the industry's biggest contact centers. The conference is also a two-day must-attend event to be held this July 10 and 11, 2007 at the Crowne Plaza Galleria Manila. This year's theme is "Philippine Call Center Road Map 2010: Full Speed Ahead!"

The event combines an industry conference tackling the major issues and trends, an exhibit of the latest products and solutions, and a job fair for industry professionals and fresh graduates.

It brings together all the players in the contact center industry, providing a one-stop venue for learning, networking, and business opportunities. It is designed with both outsourced and in-house call centers in mind. Last year, more than 6,000 delegates, industry practitioners, vendors, job applicants and investors attended the event.

Organized by the Contact Center Association of the Philippines (CCAP) which counts among its members 34 of the largest outsourced call centers in the country and the world, the event aims to promote the continued growth of the contact center industry in the Philippines. It would be a one-stop venue for learning, networking and business opportunities.

The Expo's conference is aimed at managers and executives from both outsourced and in-house call centers. The highlight of the conference is the unveiling of the Philippine call center industry's Road Map 2010. Various sectors, such as the government, real estate, education, and information and communication technology, will respond to this challenge during the plenary sessions.

"No other call center event can match the breadth and depth of the CCAP Call Center Conference & Expo 2007," says Jojo Uligan, executive director of CCAP. This year, the conference will feature a dedicated break-out session for in-house call centers called the Captives Track. This is on top of the regular Operations, People, Solutions, and Career Development Tracks.

Aside from the conference, exhibit and job fair, the event will also include special interest group (SIG) sessions for HR managers, workforce managers, QA managers, IT managers, and facilities managers from different contact centers. These are open fora for call center specialists where their particular issues and concerns can be discussed.

Full-rate conference fees are P8,000 for a Two-Day Pass and P5,000 for a One-Day Pass. Group discounts are also available. Special rates apply to CCAP members. Fees include seminar materials, snacks, lunch, and certificate of participation.

Interested parties may contact the CCAP Secretariat at tel. no. 889-7763 or telefax nos. 886-4407 and 844-8341 or email admin@mediafocus.com.ph.

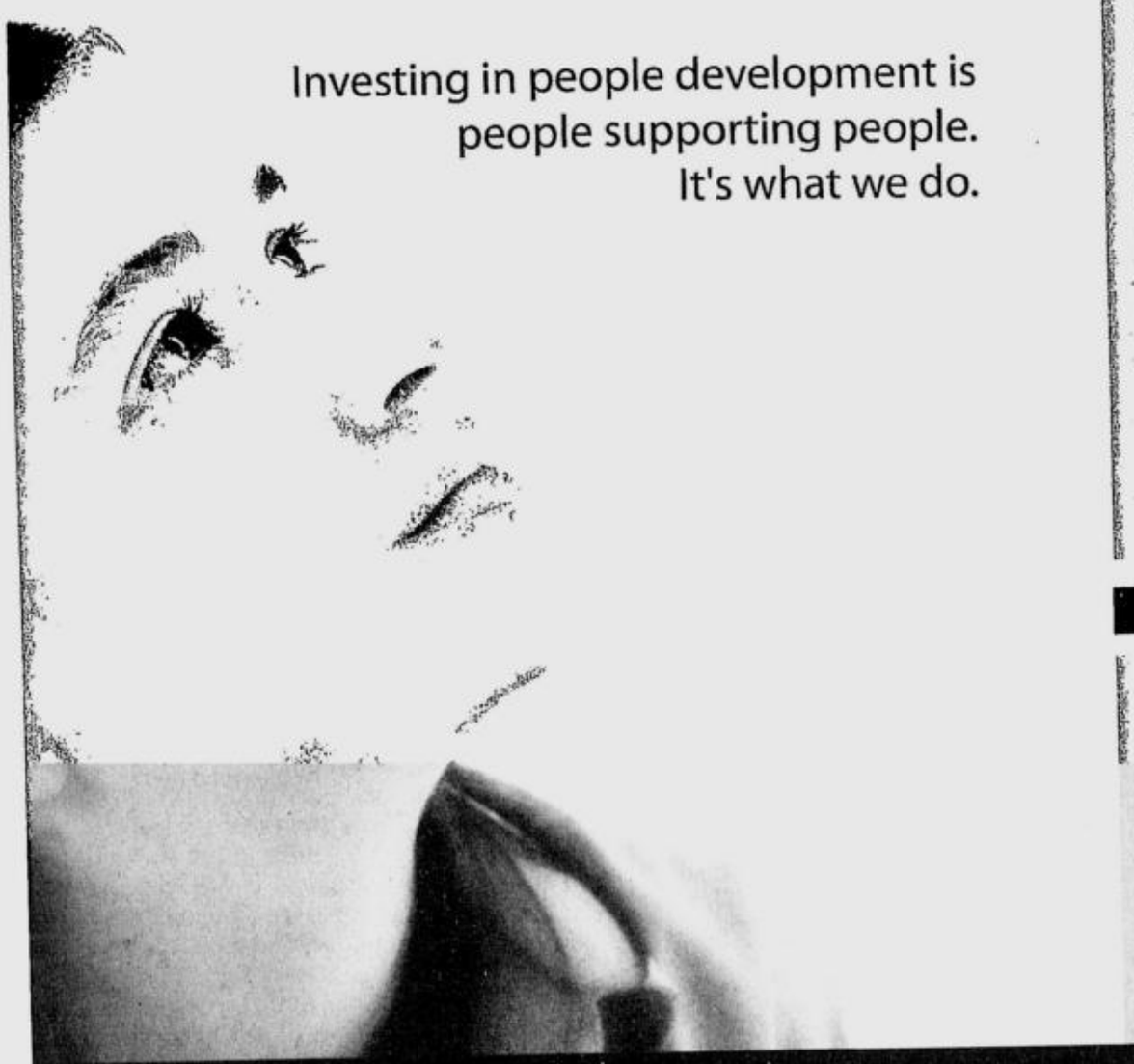
About CCAP

The Contact Center Association of the Philippines is the official organization of outsource contact center service providers in the country. It was established in October 2001 by seven founding member companies. Today, it counts 34 of the largest local and multinational contact centers in the country, namely Accesscall, Advanced Contact Solutions, Ambergris, ClientLogic, Convergys, ePerformax, eTelecare, Globalstride, HTMT, IBM Daksh, i-Contacts Corp., ICT Group, Infocom, Infonxx, Logicall, Mirof, MPI Outsourcing, One Global, One World Connections, PacificHub, PeopleSupport, Pilipinas Teleserv, Qinteraction, Sitel, Sterling Global, Sykes, Teleperformance, TeleTech, TouchAsia, TRG, V-Connect, Vision-X, Voisworx, and Winsource Solutions.

Keep an eye on your dreams.

Our people are driven by their big dreams.
By providing them the tools and opportunities for advancement, they can grow with us professionally as well as pursue their personal aspirations.
We invest not just in the development of our people -- we also invest in their dreams.

Investing in people development is people supporting people.
It's what we do.



MANAGEMENT AND PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR EXPANSION AND GROWTH

For positions listed below, kindly email your resumé to
philippinecorpjobs@peoplesupport.com
indicate position in the subject line.

FINANCE
- Manager, Financial Systems
- Manager, Business Analysis
- Manager, (US) S.E.C. Reporting
- Senior Officer – Finance and Purchasing (Cebu)
- Senior Accounting Officer
- Accounting Officer
- Payroll Supervisor
- Systems Analyst
- Systems Accountant
- Business Analyst

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
- IT Director for Production Support
- Chief Information Security Officer (IT Director)
- Consulting Implementation Manager
- Associate Consulting Manager
- Network/Data Communication Engineer (Manila/Cebu)
- Software Tester
- Desktop Supervisor
- Business/Implementation Analyst
- Senior Business Analyst
- Business Continuity Analyst
- Senior Data Quality Analyst (DBA Group)
- Desktop Analyst
- Helpdesk Analyst
- HRIS Administrator/System Administrator
- IT Security Analyst/Administrator
- Senior Database Administrator
- IT Specialist (Cebu)
- Software Engineer (ASP.net)
- Director for Busines Continuity and Disaster Recovery Planning

ADMINISTRATION AND FACILITIES
- Office Manager (Baguio)
- Safety and Security Associate (Baguio/Manila/Cebu)
- Facilities Associate (Baguio)

SERVICE DELIVERY
- Director
- Operations Manager (Cebu)
- Team Manager
- Team Supervisor
- Transcription Editor

PURCHASING
- Supply Purchasing Officer (Baguio)

HUMAN RESOURCES
- HR Manager (Baguio)
- Employee Relations Officer
- Senior Officer-Employee Relations
- Recruitment Officer (Davao)
- Organization Development Officer (Manila)
- HR Associate-Employee Services (Cebu/Manila)
- Recruitment Associate
- Recruitment Assistant(Manila)
- Compensation and Benefits Associate (Cebu)
- Organization Development Associate (Internal Communications)

LEGAL
- Senior Attorney

www.peoplesupport.com

Makati City
PeopleSupport Center
Ayala cor. Sen. Gil Puyat Avenues
Monday to Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm
Saturday, 9:00am to 3:00pm
HR Hotline: (02) 755-2600
manilajobs@peoplesupport.com

Cebu City
PeopleSupport Cebu
e-Office 1, AsiaTown IT Park
Monday to Saturday, 9:00am to 5:00pm
HR Hotline: (032) 234-8222
cebu@peoplesupport.com

Baguio City
PeopleSupport Baguio
SM Fiesta Strip Building,
Harrison Road, Baguio City
baguiojobs@peoplesupport.com

Davao City
B-1 Luisa Avenue Square,Jacinto Extension
Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 6:00pm
HR Hotline: (082) 227-9301
davaojobs@peoplesupport.com

PEOPLESUPPORT

High performance outsourcing for the global enterprise

CCAP
Contact Center Association of the Philippines

CALLCENTER

CONFERENCE / EXHIBIT
CROWNE PLAZA GALLERIA MANILA
ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK AVE. QUEZON CITY

JOB FAIR
ROBINSONS GALLERIA
WEST WING LEVEL 3

Call Center Conference & Expo 2007

PHILIPPINE CALL CENTER ROADMAP 2010:

FULL SPEED AHEAD

TUESDAY, JULY 10, 2007 - DAY ONE

CCAP CALL CENTER CONFERENCE AND EXPO 2007 - CROWNE PLAZA GALLERIA

7:30 - 8:30 AM	PLENARY SESSIONS REGISTRATION			
8:30 - 9:20AM	FLAG CEREMONY			INVOCATION
9:20 - 9:30AM	WELCOME REMARKS BONG BORJA PRESIDENT, PEOPLESUPPORT			
9:30 - 10:00AM	BPAP ROAD MAP OSCAR SAÑEZ CEO, BUSINESS PROCESSING ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES			
10:00 - 10:30AM	CCAP ROAD MAP 2010 BENEDICT HERNANDEZ VP AND GENERAL MANAGER, ETELECARE GLOBAL SOLUTIONS			
10:30 - 11:00AM	GLOBAL CALL CENTER TRENDS KARINA MADRID GENERAL MANAGER, CUSTOMER INTERACTIVE SOLUTIONS DATACRAFT			
11:00 - 12:00PM	PANEL DISCUSSION * CALL CENTERS ARE HERE TO STAY * CALL CENTER EXECUTIVES			
12:00 - 12:30PM	PANEL DISCUSSION SUPPORT FOR THE CALL INDUSTRY CALL CENTER VENDORS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS			
12:30 - 1:30PM	LUNCH/BREAKOUT SESSION			
	OPERATIONS TRACK			CAREER DEVELOPMENT TRACK
1:40 - 2:40PM	DRIVING OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE MICHAEL J. GARRISON COUNTRY MANAGER DELL INTERNATIONAL SERVICES PHILIPPINES	WHY INVEST IN HUMAN CAPITAL METRICS? NERISSA MENDOZA SENIOR DIRECTOR PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS	COLLABORATING WITH IT: WHAT EVERY CALL CENTER MANAGER NEEDS TO KNOW PHILIP LAU REGIONAL DIRECTOR, HP	7 HABITS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE CALL CENTER MANAGERS LEND GWEN NAVA VICE PRESIDENT CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP AND CHANGE
2:50 - 3:50PM	OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE: IT'S ABOUT THE PEOPLE RAUL N. PARDO VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER - ASIA TELETECH	TALENT MANAGEMENT DONNA GRANDE HR SITE DIRECTOR DELL INTERNATIONAL SERVICES PHILIPPINES	NEXT GENERATION CONTACT CENTERS SHAWSHEER AHMED BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT UNITED COMMUNICATIONS ASIA	BUILD MASSIVE RAPPORT IN THE FIRST 5 MINUTES JOSEPH PLAZO GENERAL MANAGER EXPONENTED PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT SEIZE CONTROL OF YOUR TEAM - FOR LIFE DIEGO ABONDO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS
3:50 - 4:10PM	AFTERNOON BREAK			
4:20 - 5:20PM	SALE OR NO SALE DAN REYES PRESIDENT SITEL PHILIPPINES	FINDING YOUR NEXT 1,000: ALTERNATIVE RECRUITMENT OPTIONS TERESITA SANDOVAL GENERAL MANAGER CALL CENTER ACADEMY	BUSINESS CONTINUITY AND DISASTER RECOVERY PLANNING RUSSELL GARCIA SYSTEMS ENGINEER AVAYA	EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE AND YOUR SUCCESS GREG IGUAL CERTIFIED AND LICENSED EQ TRAINER HUMANEXT COMMUNICATION IDEAS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 2007 - DAY TWO

CCAP CALL CENTER CONFERENCE AND EXPO 2007 - CROWNE PLAZA GALLERIA

8:00 - 9:00AM	PLENARY SESSIONS REGISTRATION			
9:00 - 9:10AM	FLAG CEREMONY			INVOCATION
9:10 - 10:00AM	KEYNOTE ADDRESS BRIDGING THE GAP FROM EDUCATION TO EMPLOYMENT			
10:00 - 10:15AM	COFFEE BREAK			
	OPERATIONS TRACK	BREAKOUT SESSIONS		CAREER DEVELOPMENT TRACK
10:25 - 11:25PM	LINKING SIX SIGMA TO CALL CENTER MANAGEMENT JOY KILIAN CONSULTANT AND SIX SIGMA BLACKBELT REVOLL CORP.	COMBATING CALL CENTER ATTRITION J.J. MONIGHT PRESIDENT STANDING OVATIONS FOUNDER, PEOPLE STARS	INTEGRATING CHAT, E-MAIL, AND OTHER NON VOICE TECHNOLOGIES WAYNE TOLOSA E.C.C. MONGOOT	TEAM MEMBER SELECTION LARA DE UNGSON FINANCE SUPPLY MANAGER GLOBALSTRIDE
11:35 - 12:35PM	OUTBOUND... WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT COMPLIANCE AND CHALLENGES MICHAEL PEYEN CHIEF FULFILLMENT OFFICER MPI OUTSOURCING	RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION: WHERE HAVE ALL THE ENGLISH SPEAKERS GONE? GEM DE NGUYEN TRAINING MANAGER PEOPLESUPPORT	SECURING YOUR INFORMATION IN A IN A FRIENDLY-COMPETITIVE ENVIRONMENT JAN LILLA ROSA ENTERPRISE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER APC	7 HABITS OF FINANCIALLY SUCCESSFUL PEOPLE KENNETH D. MARCOS ASP PERSONAL BANKERS SEGMENT MARKETING BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
12:35 - 2:10PM	LUNCH			
2:20 - 3:20PM	MAKING THE NUMBERS WORK: OPERATING A PROFITABLE CALL CENTER BUSINESS ANNE REYES PINEDA GENERAL MANAGER TECHQUEST	HIRING FOR RETENTION: THE PHILIPPINE CONTACT CENTER INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE HAZEL CHAVEZ VICE PRESIDENT/HR ADVANCED CONTACT SOLUTIONS	CUT TELECOM COSTS THROUGH INFRASTRUCTURE OUTSOURCING MICHAEL PARKER VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER NOWTEL	POSITIVE LEADERSHIP RITA TALLUSGARTE PRESIDENT EXCELASIA TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT
3:20 - 4:20PM	PUTTING METRICS INTO ACTION JOHN LINGFORD SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OPERATIONS ICI GROUP	ADDRESSING ATTRITION ISSUES THROUGH TALENT DEVELOPMENT CAROL DOMEQUILE PRESIDENT AND CEO ASIA CLIENTS	BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS TO WORKFORCE OPTIMIZATION GREG SHUPPY DIRECTOR OF MARKETING NEWNT	GETTING STARTED AS A NEW LEADER VICTOR WAGNARNOS MANAGING DIRECTOR SOVDEVELOPMENT DIMENSIONS INTERNATIONAL
4:20 - 4:40PM	AFTERNOON BREAK			
4:40 - 5:40PM	GROWING A LEARNING ORGANIZATION MR. MUSTO VICE PRESIDENT OPERATIONS CONVERGYS	LIVING THE FUTURE OF HR TODAY NOEL DE LEON MANAGING DIRECTOR WORLDWIDE HUMAN RESOURCE OUTSOURCING	MAXIMIZING YOUR INFRASTRUCTURE: WAYS TO MAKE THE MOST OUT OF YOUR FACILITY, TECHNOLOGY AND OTHER INVESTMENTS RUSSELL GARCIA SYSTEMS ENGINEER AVAYA	STRESS AND HEALTH MANAGEMENT DR. MARIA CONSUELO BALTAZAR-MARIANO WHTM
5:40 - 6:10PM			SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER: SOLVING SECURITY INFORMATION OVERLOAD CHRIS SANTOS CONSULTANT CA PHILIPPINES	SELF-DEFENSE FOR CALL CENTER PROFESSIONALS LAWRENCE UNGSON SELF-DEFENSE TRAINER
6:10 - 6:40PM	RAND WALL			

Co-Presented by: APC, Microsoft, NovaTel, AVAYA, PLANTRONICS, CISCO, Datacraft, hp, SAMSUNG IT Solutions

Gold Sponsors: Avid, BPI, Globe Innove, Jabra, MPI Outsourcing, Teledata, TeleTech, Teleperformance, VERINT

Silver Sponsors: Alcatel-Lucent, DTSI, Jansen & Jessen, lenovo, TouchStar

Official Media Partner: INQUIRER

Print Media Partners: BusinessMirror, BusinessWorld, MANILA BULLETIN, chronicle, transit

Radio Partners: 1015, 107

Online Media Partners: JobsDB.com, JOB, Yahoo!

Official Web Developer: Sallinger Interactive

Official Web Host:

Supported by: BPAP, PHILIPPINE

Minor Sponsors: SOS, GNSI, headstrong, VXI

FOR INQUIRIES CALL TEL NO. **889-7763 / 356-0557** TELEFAX: **886-4407 / 844-8341**
EMAIL **ADMIN@MEDIAFOCUS.COM.PH / DLMEDIAFOCUS@YAHOO.COM**
VISIT **WWW.CCAP.PH**

FREE ENTRANCE at the JOB FAIR & EXHIBIT AREAS

Your contact center association at a glance

THE CONTACT CENTER Association of the Philippines (CCAP) is the official organization of outsource contact center service providers in the country. It was established in October 2001 by seven founding member companies. It is open to all companies operating an outsource contact center in the Philippines with a capacity of no less 50 seats.

Our Mission

We are the Contact Center Association of the Philippines (CCAP). We count as members only those who assiduously work toward operational excellence. We are committed to the promotion of the Philippines as the country-of-choice for outsourced contact center services. Collectively, we will uphold and continue to improve the quality of the services we provide. Together, we will tap, hone and guide toward productive ends the skills, talents and traits for which the Filipino is known worldwide: our friendly attitude and innate warmth as a people, the high literacy and education of our workforce, their technical prowess, innovation multi-lingual capability and dedication to work. These are the drivers that will guarantee the delivery of the best outsourced contact center services... from the ... through us... to the world.

What We Do

CCAP actively promotes the contact center industry here and abroad by:

- joining trade missions
- attending conferences
- developing industry standards and practices
- organizing events aimed at building solidarity among one another

Board of Directors

The 2007 CCAP Board of Directors:

Victor Endaya
Advanced Contact Solutions Inc.

Karen Batungbacal
ICT Group

Bong Borja
PeopleSupport

Raffy David
Pilipinas Teleserv Inc.

Mary Ann Degrenier
Infonxx

Benedict Hernandez
eTelecare Global Solutions

Renato Yap
ContactPoint Outsource Services

Jojo Uligan
Executive Director

Events

The Contact Center Association of the Philippines has been very active in the past few years in organizing learning, networking and social events.

Call Center Conference & Expo

The Call Center Conference & Expo is the premier learning event for the contact center industry. The event combines an industry conference tackling the major issues and trends, an exhibit of the latest products and solutions, and a job fair for industry professionals and fresh graduates.

It brings together all the players in the contact center industry, providing a one-stop venue for learning, networking, and business opportunities. It's designed with both outsourced and in-house call centers in mind. Last year, more than 6,000 delegates, industry practitioners, vendors, job applicants, and investors attended the event.

Call Center in a Box/ Call Center 101

The Call Center in a Box is a seminar for call center startups as part of the CCAP Learning Event series. The event addresses the need of newly established call centers as well as entrepreneurs, investors, and executives to learn the basics of putting up and running an in-house or outsourced call center.

The series has completed two seminars, attended by close to 300 participants. The seminar is divided into three modules: Projections and Expectations, Setting Up a Call Center, and Operating a Call Center. Call center veterans, vendors and experts cover topics such as financial metrics, regulatory and legal requirements, site selection and facility design, telecommunications and information technology, organizational setup, marketing, operations, and managing inbound and outbound campaigns.

Call Center Executives Golf Challenge

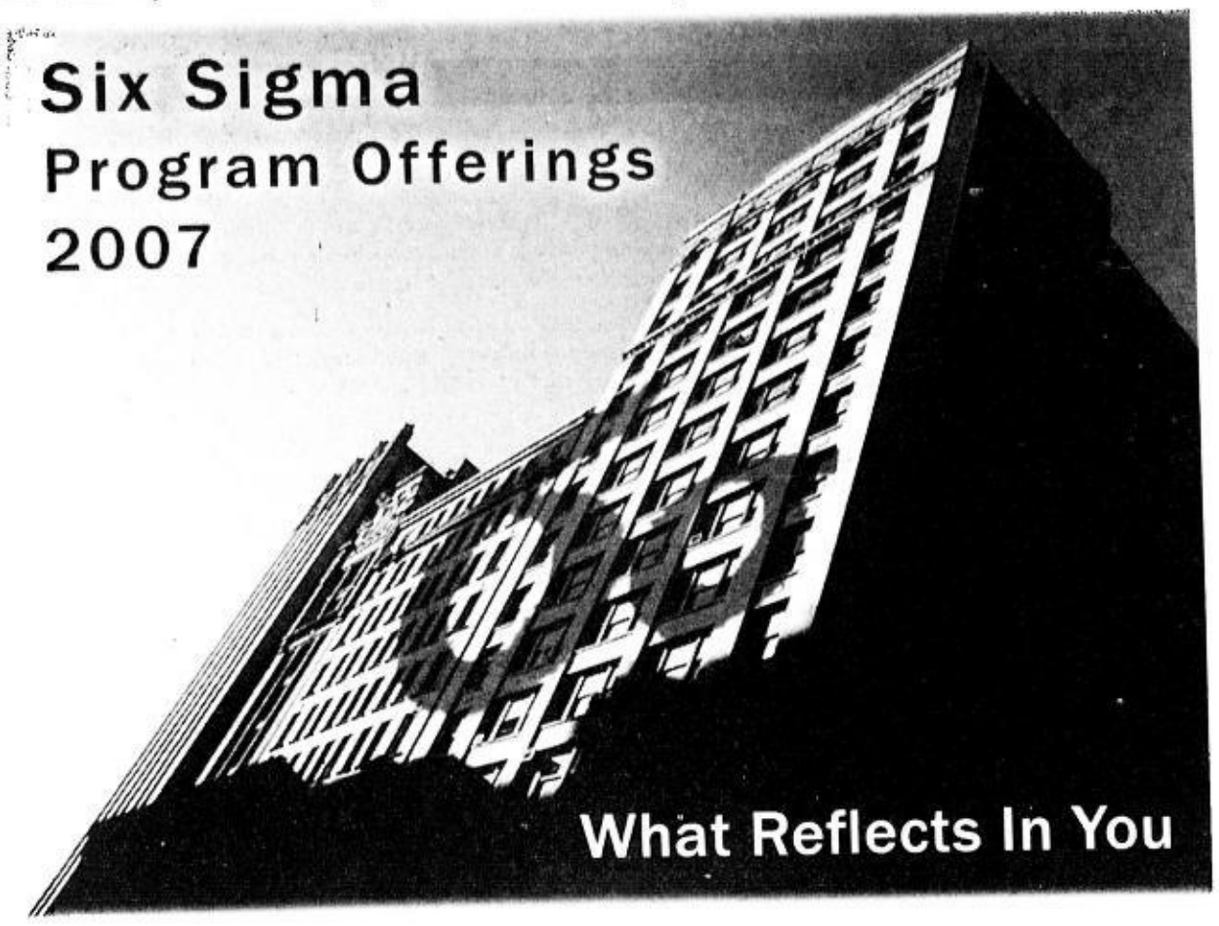
The Call Center Executives Golf Challenge is an exclusive, invitational golf tournament aimed at fostering camaraderie and networking among the industry's major players. It gathers together the call center and golf communities, by inviting call center vendors and service providers and professional golf players and golf journalists. It is an unforgettable, fun-filled day of golf, lunch, and raffle prizes galore.

The first tournament, held at Sta. Elena Golf Club, was participated by 110 players while the second golf challenge, which took place at the Tagaytay Midlands, drew 130 participants.

Jammin' Call Center Battle of the Bands

Jammin' Call Center Battle of the Bands is an amateur rock band competition among members of the Contact Center Association of the

YOURCONTACT/P.4



Six Sigma Green Belt
September 7, 8, 14, 15, and 22

Six Sigma Black Belt
October 4 - November 17

For details and registration, call Jen Albacite at 830.2040 or Marleth Calanog at 840.1742 or write to cce-abib@aps.ateneo.edu.

Visit and REGISTER online at www.cce.ateneo.edu

ATENEO DE MANILA UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
Center for Continuing Education
100 HV Dela Costa St., Salcedo Village, Makati 1200 Philippines
03(2)830.2050 • 03(2)810.7809
cce-abib@aps.ateneo.edu • www.cce.ateneo.edu

PROVIDENCE TOWER ENTERTAINMENT AND DINING

MAMA V RESTAURANT
Open Daily 11am to midnight

MAMA V RESTAURANT "GABI-GABI"
Open Daily 6pm to 6am

MAMA V 24-HOUR CONVENIENCE STORE AND REFRESHMENT PARLOR
Always Open 24.7.365

24-HOUR KARAOKE SPECIAL
BE AN AGENT BY NIGHT AND SINGER BY DAY AT
THE PROV
[THE PROVIDENCE TOWER]

For all you living on the "flip"side, the people at The Prov have a special offer. The first 200 call center "flips", agents, & singers to come in and mention this ad will get free tokens for karaoke/TV use. Just ask for Babsi Angeles at the Mama V 24-Hour Convenience Store. Otherwise, the usual low rates still apply

REGULAR RATES
ONLY P5 PER SONG
NO COVER CHARGE
NO HOURLY CHARGE

FACILITIES
39 PRIVATE AIRCON BOOTHS (seats 5-10)
3 VIP BOOTHS (seats 15-20)

2471 Leon Guinto Street, Corner Estrada, Malate Steps from La Salle Taft, St. Scho and St. Benilde
www.providencetowermanila.com Building 02.440.8749 02.524.4714 02.523.8307 Restaurant 02.526.1855
The Providence Tower 2000 Condominium Corporation

An avenue for jobseekers to find the best jobs and for employers to find the best applicants.

Go for a TWIN WIN

See the difference
VIDEO JOB APPLICATIONS make

Jobseekers
Present qualifications in a 30-second video
Save time and money on job hunt
Get the job they want
PRACTICE RECORD UPLOAD SEND

Employers
Post online job vacancies
Have access to video resumes
Shorten, if not eliminate, initial screening process
Hire the employees they need
REGISTER POST VACANCIES DOWNLOAD VIDEO SELECT APPLICANT

Vidres is more than just video resume. It features company video profiles and allows employers to interview candidates online.

Forget about paper applications. Video is faster, cheaper, better!

Tel: (632)751.3592 Fax: (632)811.3212
info@vidres.net

www.vidres.net
Your resume. Your video. You.

We are now hiring for our Group Service Centre in Manila!

HSBC Global Resourcing has established the Group Service Centres in 10 locations across five countries, employing over 25,000 people to provide world-class global support and customer contact services to the HSBC Group in Europe, North America and East Asia.

If you are a highly motivated individual with excellent English communication skills, open to working various shifts and intent on being part of one of the most respected and reputable global organisations in the world, we invite you to our OPEN HOUSE at any of our sites from Monday to Saturday (holidays included) from 9 am to 6 pm:

Alabang
5150 North Bridgeway corner Northgate Avenue, Northgate Cyberzone
Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang, Muntinlupa City 1781

Makati
40th Floor PBCom Tower, 6795 Ayala Avenue
corner VA Rufino Street, Makati City 1226

Ortigas Center
29th Floor Discovery Centre, ADB Avenue
Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1600

Please bring your résumé, one 2" x 2" picture, a photocopy of your latest payslip (if applicable), one valid ID and your SSS number.

You may also e-mail your résumé to servicecenterjobs@hsbc.com.ph or call the Recruitment Hotline at 63 2 859 4377.

HSBC

Issued by HSBC Electronic Data Processing (Philippines), Inc

Message

The call center industry in the Philippines is important on two fronts. It contributes directly and substantially to investments, revenues and employment. It also creates a ripple effect on the economy through support sectors such as real estate, transportation, retail, information technology, telecommunications, among others.

It is thus the responsibility of the influencers and players in the call center industry and the various stakeholders outside it to ensure its continuous and long-term growth. We at the Contact Center Association of the Philippines (CCAP) recognize this and as such, we will have panel discussions revolving on the theme "Call centers are here to stay" where we have invited top executives from key call center players as well as representatives from support sectors to discuss the growth, commitment and direction to the industry.

Our theme "Philippine Call Center Road Map 2010" is already a clear indication of the commitment of CCAP and its 34 member call centers, representing more than 90 percent of total call center seats nationwide, towards a sustained and unified effort in achieving the goals and targets we have set for the outsourced space of the contact center industry.

The Call Center Conference and Expo 2007 is without a doubt the premier learning and networking event for contact center professionals. There is no call center event like it. We are proud that we are now on our third run and delegates, sponsors, exhibitors, guests, call centers, and job seekers find enormous value in the event. This year will be as successful, if not more, than previous conventions. And we thank all those who have and will contribute to its success.

(Sgd.) **Benedict Hernandez**
Director
Contact Center Association of the Philippines (CCAP)

LOS ANGELES
SINGAPORE
MAKATI
QUEZON CITY
SHANGHAI
GUANGZHOU
EIGHT SITES. SIX CITIES. FOUR COUNTRIES. ONE COMPANY.

VISION-X INCORPORATED
WE ARE MAKING THE WORLD SMALLER TO OFFER YOU BIGGER OPPORTUNITIES.

We are looking for:
CALL CENTER REPRESENTATIVES
Technical Support

Recruitment X-press Lane

Faster processing for applicants with at least five (5) months call center experience and they will also get a 10-15% SALARY PREMIUM GUARANTEED!**
Candidates must bring their Certificate of Employment stating their BASIC SALARY and TENURE.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL GET A CHANCE TO EARN AS MUCH AS 30,000++ PESOS PER MONTH!!!

OTHER POSITIONS AVAILABLE:
CLIENT RELATIONS MANAGER : HR MANAGER : OPERATIONS DIRECTOR : SYSTEMS ENGINEER : EMPLOYEE RELATIONS SPECIALIST : CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS WRITER : PRODUCT TRAINER : APPLICATIONS DEVELOPER
TELCOMS ENGINEER : CORE SKILLS TRAINER (COMMUNICATION AND CUSTOMER SERVICE)

** SALARY PREMIUM IS BASED ON TENURE AND COMPENSATION STATED ON THE COE. APPLICANTS MUST ALSO HAVE A BASIC SALARY OF 18,000 PESOS OR ABOVE FROM THEIR PREVIOUS EMPLOYER TO QUALIFY FOR THE SALARY PREMIUM PROGRAM.

VISIT US FROM MONDAY TO FRIDAY, 7AM TO 3PM.
MAKATI CITY: 15th Floor, Tower 2, RCBC Plaza, Ayala Corner Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue
QUEZON CITY: 1024 Global Trade Center Building, Epifanio Delos Santos Avenue (EDSA)
VXI VISION X INC

WEBSITE: www.vxi.com EMAIL: careersph@vxi.com AD BLOG: www.vxi-ads.blogspot.com

Are call centers here to stay?

THE CONTACT CENTER INDUSTRY has some critics saying that it will only be good for the short term, both as a source of business investments for the country and source of employment for young professionals. Are call centers here to stay? Or are they in today, out tomorrow?

The CCAP Call Center Conference and Expo 2007, to be held this July 10 and 11, 2007 at the Crowne Plaza Galleria Manila, will address these critical issues. One of the highlights of the Expo is a special panel discussion among key players, composed of top executives of the major outsourced and in-house contact centers which would discuss the topic "Call centers are here to stay." Another panel, made up of players in the support sectors (real estate, ICT, training, etc.), will share what they are doing to provide the infrastructure in supporting the contact center industry.

This event is organized by Contact Center Association of the Philippines (CCAP), which counts among its members 34 of the largest outsourced call centers in the country and the world. The conference is aimed at managers and executives from both outsourced and in-house call centers in mind. More than 600 delegates participated in the three conference tracks last year.

CCAP will also present its Philippine Call Center Road Map 2010 to provide guidance on where the industry is headed and the strategies and action plans it would implement to meet its goals. The conference features plenary sessions and simultaneous break-out sessions, namely Operations, People, Solutions and Career Development. Local and international speakers will present trends, insights, case studies, and best practices to an audience of call center executives, managers, and supervisors.

Interested parties may contact the CCAP Secretariat at tel. no: 889-7763 or telefax nos. 886-4407 and 844-8341 or email admin@mediafocus.com.ph.

Your contact...

From P. 3

Philippines (CCAP). It is the first event that gathered the best call center bands.

The competition set a new precedent in the call center industry as various bands from several call centers vie for the most coveted "Best Call Center Band of the Year" title. Huge prizes were up for grabs, including a P150,000 prize in cash and in kind for the grand champion. The second placer won P50,000 and the third placer went home P30,000 richer. The bands were judged based on Musicianship, Audience Impact, Originality and Creativity, Stage Presence, Style and Presentation, and Overall Impact.

Members

CCAP counts among its members the leading local and global contact centers. From the original seven founding members, CCAP now has a roster of 34 members and growing:

Accesscall
Advanced Contact Solutions
Ambergris
Convergys
ePerformax
eTelecare
Globalstride
HTMT
IBM Daksh
i-Contacts Corp.
ICT Group
Infocom
Infonxx
Logicall
Mirof
MPI Outsourcing
One Global
One World Connections
PacificHub
PeopleSupport
Pilipinas Teleserv
Qinteraction
Sitel
Sterling Global
Sykes
Teleperformance,
TeleTech
TouchAsia
TRG
V-Connect
Vision-X
Voisworx
Winsource Solutions

Contact Info:
CCAP Secretariat
17th Floor (Rm. O)
Burgundy Corporate Tower,
Sen. Gil Puyat Ave.,
Makati City
Tel: (632) 8864421
Telefax: (632) 8864407
Email:
admin@mediafocus.com.ph
Website: www.ccap.ph